

The SPORTS PINK

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RANTIE KEEPS LEAGUE LEADERS IN CHECK

Burnley v Bournemouth match report – see page 5



8-PAGE ASHES PULL-OUT INSIDE



SAINTS' LIONS PUT BITE ON THE TIGERS

*Lambert and
Lallana celebrate
England call-ups
with goals in
home win*

GET IN: Adam Lallana and Rickie Lambert celebrate goals against Hull.

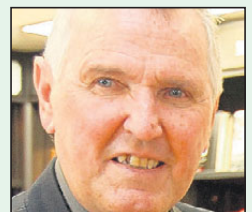


SAINTS 4 HULL CITY 1

SAINTS signed off for the international break in style as they climbed to third place in the Premier League table with a 4-1 hammering of Hull.

England boss Roy Hodgson was watching on from the stands at St Mary's to see two of the three Saints stars he called up this week score in a big win for Mauricio Pochettino's men. Saints were simply brilliant in the first half and, though they couldn't quite reach such heights in the second period, they won comfortably thanks to goals from Morgan Schneiderlin, Rickie Lambert, a brilliant solo effort from Adam Lallana and sub Steven Davis.

TERRY PAINE



**Saints legend's
EXCLUSIVE column**
– page 7

SAINTS



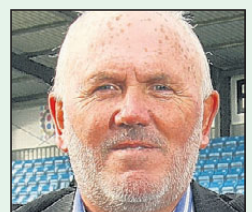
**Duo's amazing
Saints collection**
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CRICKET



**Carberry's ton-derful
time at Hampshire**
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NON-LEAGUE



**Malone labels rivals'
ground a 'dump'**
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SAINTS v HULL MATCH REPORT AND REACTION – SEE PAGES 2-5

Saints Spotlight

SAINTS 4 HULL 1: POCHETTINO'S MEN

ROAR-SOME! LIONS TURN



ASSIST: Rickie Lambert wins the header against Hull City's Curtis Davies, left, and Ahmed Elmohamady to set up Saints' first goal.



BEATEN: James Ward-Prowse gets past Hull's George Boyd.

SAINTS signed off for the international break in style as they climbed to third place in the Premier League table with a 4-1 hammering of Hull.

England boss Roy Hodgson was watching on from the stands at St Mary's to see two of the three Saints stars he called up this week score in a big win for Mauricio Pochettino's men.

Saints were simply brilliant in the first half and, though they couldn't quite reach such heights in the second period, they won comfortably thanks to goals from Morgan Schneiderlin, Rickie Lambert, a brilliant solo effort from Adam Lallana and sub Steven Davis.

Lallana showed fantastic skill on four minutes to give himself the chance to put a cross in from the right.

Rickie Lambert tried to meet it but was eased off of making a clean connection by Curtis Davies and went to ground with a few penalty appeals waved away by referee Phil Dowd who

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had no interest in awarding a spot kick.

Saints were having to show quite a bit of patience in the early stages.

Hull were getting men behind the ball and camping deep in their own half, trying to make themselves hard to break down. However, their plan backfired when Saints took the lead on 16 minutes.

Nathaniel Clyne stood up a very high cross from the right which Lambert rose highest at the far post to head back across goal.

Morgan Schneiderlin arrived right on queue and showed great control and composure to head unchallenged into the top corner from six yards out to make it 1-0, giving Steve Harper in the Hull goal absolutely no chance.

Hull immediately threatened up the other end with a couple of set pieces but Saints held firm and the danger ended when Paul McShane headed a corner over the bar.

But that quickly faded as Saints took total control of a game they were dominating by doubling their lead.

Lambert's quick ball picked out the run of Lallana who was chasing in towards goal.

Harper came charging off his line to try and intercept but timed his slide tackle badly and clearly felled Lallana just inside the area.

Dowd this time had no hesitation in awarding a penalty and Harper was spared a red card and handed just a booking only thanks to the fact that Lallana was heading away from goal and the challenge was made



only just in the top left hand corner of the area.

Lambert stepped up to take the penalty on the half hour mark and drilled it past Harper who guessed correctly in diving to his right but the ball powered past him for 2-0.

Saints looked so much better than Hull that you began to wonder just how many goals they might notch up.

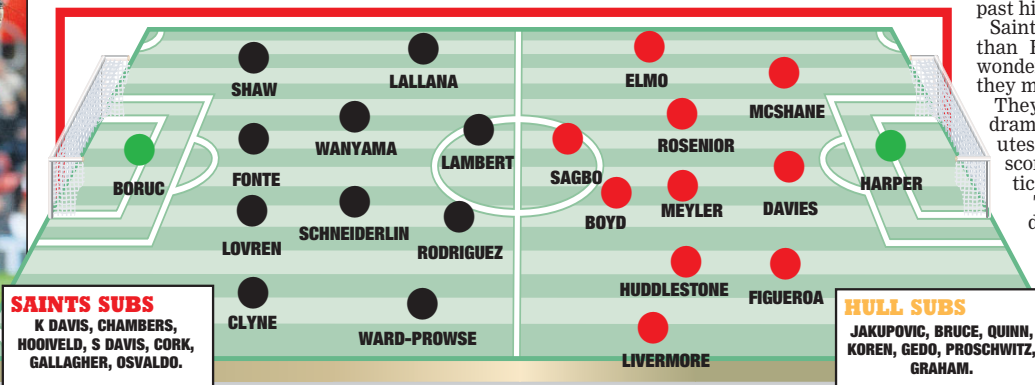
They managed another in dramatic fashion on 37 minutes when Lallana himself scored an absolutely fantastic goal.

There appeared little danger as he collected the ball in the middle of the Hull half.

But the midfielder jinked out towards the left, danced past two Hull challenges, held off another and found himself closing in on goal faced by Harper.

He opened up his body and produced a wonderful finish low across Harper into the far corner.

Davies found himself in the book as Hull resorted to chopping down Luke Shaw to attempt to repel yet another Saints attack.



MAURICIO Pochettino reverted back to the side that drew with Stoke for the visit of Hull to St Mary's.

The Saints boss had made ten changes for the midweek Capital One Cup defeat at Sunderland, with Jay Rodriguez the only survivor

TEAM NEWS

from the game at the Britannia Stadium.

But he switched back again for a return to league action with Rodriguez, Adam Lallana and Rickie Lambert all celebrating their

England call-ups by being named in the starting line-up for Hull.

Dani Osvaldo was fit enough to return to the bench along with 18-year-old Sam Gallagher who made his debut at the Stadium of Light. However, there was no place for Gaston Ramirez.

ALL THE BIG MATCH ANALYSIS AND REACTION IN MONDAY'S ECHO

Saints Spotlight

UP TO THIRD AFTER DOMINANT ST MARY'S DISPLAY

SAINTS' ON STYLE



ABOVE: Morgan Schneiderlin heads in the opener.

LEFT: Morgan Schneiderlin, right, celebrates his goal.



Saints had a small scare in first half stoppage time as Dejan Lovren was forced into clearing off the line as Maynor Figueroa's side footed finish from George Boyd's corner threatened to reduce the deficit.

But when the half-time whistle blew Saints deserved a three-goal lead.

Hull made a chance at the break to attempt to stave off what was look like being an awful afternoon for them with Robert Koren replacing Ahmed Elmohamady.

Saints gave Hull a glimmer of hope by conceding a shambles of a goal on 55 minutes.

Artur Boruc had the ball at his feet in his area under no

pressure and gently rolled it out centrally to Victor Wanyama.

The midfielder didn't react at all and the ball rolled past his feet and straight to Jake Livermore who quickly squared it to Yannick Sagbo.

He had time to take a touch and from 20 yards picked his spot finishing past Boruc who couldn't get to the ball down to his left.

Hull sensed that maybe Saints had taken their foot off the gas a little after their blistering first half display and continued to press forward, Tom Huddlestone testing Boruc from long range.

Saints recovered though

through Lallana who almost scored another great goal.

He burst forward, fed it into Lambert who flicked the ball from behind form back into Lallana's path but the Saints skipper's first time finish was well saved by Harper diving to his right.

From the corner Schneiderlin's low drive was blocked on the line by David Meyler.

Saints made their first change with Steven Davis coming on for Wanyama on 63 minutes.

Hull made another attacking substitution on 73 minutes with Danny Graham introduced for Meyler.

Saints responded with Dani Osvaldo replacing Lambert.

Hull clearly sensed that there might still be something in the game for them if they could get another goal and have the chance to press late on for an equaliser.

For their part Saints knew that one more would kill the game off entirely.

Jay Rodriguez and Osvaldo both threatened to get that goal with headers but neither could quite convert half chances.

Schneiderlin was the first Saints player to go in the book for a late challenge.

Hull made a final change with George Boyd replaced by Stephen Quinn with ten minutes remaining.

Saints did likewise with Lallana coming off to a standing ovation for Jack Cork.

Saints finally got the points wrapped up two minutes from time.

Rodriguez flicked the ball down the right, Clyne ran on and crossed low first time right footed.

It fell to Steven Davis in time and space in the area and he took one touch to control and a second to bury a finish low past Harper from ten yards out to make it 4-1 and another great day for Saints.

STUNNER: Adam Lallana celebrates his goal with teammate James Ward-Prowse.



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READ THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH ON PAGE 6

Saints Spotlight



MAURICIO POCHETTINO

Poch backs stars to shine for England

Mauricio Pochettino has backed his Saints stars to shine on the international stage after watching them demolish Hull 4-1 to go third in the Premier League.

In a week which saw Rickie Lambert, Adam Lallana and Jay Rodriguez all called up for the England squad, Saints shone in front of Roy Hodgson with a thumping St Mary's victory.

Lambert and Lallana got on the scoresheet, with the latter netting a quite wonderful solo effort.

Now all eyes turn to just how these talents will do on the international stage.

Pochettino said: "I hope all the players that got called up to their national sides get the chance to play. It would be great for them."

"I think they all have amazing potential, they just all need to keep on developing their football, they all need to keep progressing as football players and playing for their national sides will give them that confidence and chance to perform at a higher quality."

"We just need to keep on for Southampton working with the same humility and the same work ethic."

Speaking of the convincing Saints victory he added: "I am very happy."

"I want to congratulate all of my players. They put in an amazing performance - all of them."

"They had a great performance and I am very pleased with all of them."

ROY'S PERFECT DAY



SPOT ON: Rickie Lambert tucks away Saints' first-half penalty.

AS THE Saints fans chanted "Come on England" during their team's destruction of Hull City, Roy Hodgson couldn't help but smile.

It wasn't just the comic value of the home supporters that gave the manager of the national side reason to be happy, though.

Sat in the directors' box at St Mary's, the England boss watched a Saints performance that would have given him hope for not only the present, but also the future.

The work being conducted here is becoming of increasingly-important value to Hodgson and the Football Association.

Only 48 hours earlier, he had called up three of the club's players to his latest squad, for the friendly matches against Chile and Germany.

He gazed on with an ever-increasing grin as Adam Lallana, Rickie Lambert and Jay Rodriguez spearheaded a ruthless demolition of Hull.

Lambert laid on Saints' opener, which was scored by Morgan Schneiderlin, with a magnificent cushioned header.

His exquisite through-pass then set Lallana clear, before Hull keeper Steve Harper tripped him in the area. As always, Lambert made no mistake from 12 yards, as he doubled the lead.

It was then Lallana's turn to take centre stage.

The 25-year-old received a pass from Lambert 30 yards out, turned beautifully past two Hull players, then jinked past another two into the box, before setting himself and curling a low effort past Harper.

It was a magnificent solo goal and arguably the highlight in what has been a sensational series of performances from the Saints captain this season.

No wonder Hodgson was smiling. His decision to recall the midfielder was a fully justified

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Saints Spotlight

AT ST MARY'S



FINISH: Southampton's Adam Lallana scores past Hull City goalkeeper Steve Harper.

Gordon Simpson

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SPORTS REPORTER

one, and he will surely be increasingly excited about what Lallana can offer after seeing him today.

Rodriguez had less obvious impact than the other two, but his pace and direct running was a regular problem for the visitors, while his touch in the build-up for Saints' fourth goal was sublime. He certainly did himself plenty of good.

But it was not just the performances of Lambert, Lallana and Rodriguez that would have heartened Hodgson.

Nathaniel Clyne, who the

England boss revealed this week is always in his thoughts, was excellent at right-back.

He was a menacing presence when he roamed forward, supplying a marvellous cross for the opening goal, and doing likewise for Saints' fourth.

On the other side of the back four, his 18-year-old colleague Luke Shaw underlined why he will one day soon surely be in the senior England squad.

While the teenager appears certain to head in that direction, he is not likely to be moving anywhere else any time soon, after addressing speculation about his future in the matchday programme, where he again committed himself to Saints.

"I don't really take notice of things that are written about me – it is frustrating at times, but I just laugh it off," said Shaw, who signed a five-year contract at St Mary's last summer.

"They (the media) don't know anything because they aren't around the training ground and in the dressing room with me.

"They should know that I've signed a contract at Southampton and I'm not even thinking about moving."

Shaw added: "I think people are starting to realise what sort of a club Southampton is. We are young and ambitious, and we want to go places in the next couple of years."

Another example of that

youthful ambition was to be found in James Ward-Prowse again today.

An increasing number of comparisons with David Beckham in relation to his crossing and dead ball delivery might be putting some extra pressure on his young shoulders, but he is carrying it with apparent ease.

The 19-year-old was again composed and threatening and, while other Englishmen in the Saints team took the headlines, Hodgson will surely have noticed the potential in the under-21 international.

In fact, it is hard imagine that, during the entire season, the England boss will have a more enjoyable day out than this.



OPENER: Tokelo Rantie, right.

Rantie strike holds leaders

TOKELO Rantie bagged his first goal for Cherries as Eddie Howe's return to former club Burnley saw the Dorset outfit hold the Championship leaders to a 1-1 draw.

Record signing Rantie finally got off the mark when he netted with a stunning right-foot shot to fire Cherries into the lead five minutes into the second half at Turf Moor, **writes NEIL PERRETT.**

But former Cherries striker Danny Ings salvaged a share of the spoils for the Clarets when he popped up with an equaliser seven minutes from time.

Elliott Ward, Eunan O'Kane and Brett Pitman were restored to the Cherries starting line-up as boss Howe made three changes.

Tommy Elphick and Shaun MacDonald dropped to the bench, while Ryan Fraser was ruled out after picking up a knock to his knee in training.

Rantie carved out the first shooting chance after just 95 seconds, the striker firing over the top having burst past three defenders and into the box.

And Pitman's deflected effort from 20 yards had to be helped over the crossbar by back-tracking Clarets goalkeeper Tom Heaton after five minutes.

Burnley's first chance fell to ex-Cherries striker Sam Vokes after 10 minutes, the targetman glancing a header over the crossbar from David Jones's free-kick.

Harry Arter was booked for entering the field of play without referee Mick Russell's permission after he had left the pitch to receive some treatment to a leg injury.

Cherries goalkeeper Lee Camp got down well to smother Michael Kightly's long-range effort before Pitman acrobatically cleared a

Jason Shackell header off the line.

Steve Cook's outstanding block denied Vokes after Ings had rolled the ball into his path before Ward thwarted Ings as he was about to pull the trigger.

Cherries had a let off when Vokes missed his kick from close range after Camp had only been able to parry Scott Arfield's piledriver.

Dean Marney's speculative strike failed to trouble Camp before Cook's low drive is scooped up by Heaton as the teams trade chances in quick succession.

Cherries opened the scoring in spectacular fashion when Rantie unleashed a ferocious right-foot effort into the roof of the net from 20 yards five minutes into the second half.

The South Africa international broke his duck for Cherries after latching on to Pitman's flick following a through ball from deep from Ward.

Burnley substitute Keith Treacy headed tamely into Camp's hands before Vokes's deflected shot almost crept in at the near post before the Cherries goalkeeper retrieved the ball.

Another penalty shout from the hosts fell on deaf ears after Ings had gone to ground under a Ward challenge with referee Russell, who was well placed, unmoved.

Rantie's deft effort bounced the wrong side of the upright after Arter had put him through before Vokes just failed to connect with a Jones cross.

The Clarets levelled when Ings arrived at the far post and got on the end of a Vokes flick before guiding the ball past Camp to net his 14th of the season.

Camp's top-drawer save kept out Treacy's free-kick, the goalkeeper scurrying to his left and clawing the shot out of the top corner.

GROUP HUG: Saints' Morgan Schneiderlin, second right, celebrates with his teammates after scoring his side's first goal of the game



TODAY'S PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS - SEE BACK PAGE

Sports Quiz

- 1 What is the surname of Declan, Ireland rugby union coach until April?
- 2 Which company sponsored Wales rugby union from 2004 until 2012?
- 3 What is the surname of Millwall midfielder Liam, who joined from Ipswich in 2010.
- 4 What is the name shared by former Republic of Ireland goalkeeper Bonner and Northern Ireland counterpart Jennings.
- 5 What World Cup 2014 qualifying group were Scotland and Wales paired in?
- 6 Which English golfer won this year's Irish Open to end a two-and-a-half year winless run?
- 7 Name the former Tottenham goalkeeper who made more than 100 appearances for the United States?
- 8 Who is the captain of the England women's football team?
- 9 Who won the 2011 MotoGP world championship?
- 10 What is the name of Hull KR's home ground in Super League?
- 11 Which Briton won Olympic gold in the men's singles figure skating at the 1976 Innsbruck Games?
- 12 Robin Dutt is the coach of which German Bundesliga side?
- 13 Jordy Nelson plays as a wide receiver for which NFL team?
- 14 Ryan Lochte is a five-time Olympic gold-medallist in which sport?
- 15 England Ashes hopeful Michael Carberry (pictured) plays for which county side?
- 16 The Timberwolves are a professional basketball team based in which American city?
- 17 Stade Gilbert Brutus is the home to which sporting side?
- 18 England and Northampton hooker Dylan Hartley has also played for which other current Aviva Premiership club?
- 19 Which professional snooker player is nicknamed "The Welsh Dragon"?
- 20 Borussia Dortmund centre-back Mats Hummels started his professional career at which side?



ANSWERS

1 Kidney; 2 Brains; 3 Trotter; 4 Pat; 5 A; 6 Paul Casey; 7 Kasey Keller; 8 Casey Stoner; 9 Casey Stoner; 10 Craven Park; 11 John Curry; 12 Werder Bremen; 13 Green Bay Packers; 14 Swimming; 15 Hampshire; 16 Answers; 17 Minneapolis; 18 Worcester; 19 League; 20 Bayern Munich II.

BEAUTIFUL SOUTH

BY DAREN WHEELER

Cup prices must reflect quality of teams on show

THE distance from Southampton to Sunderland is approximately 316 miles – 632 miles round trip.

That's tough journey on a Saturday for a three o'clock kick off, let alone a Wednesday evening. For those hardy souls who made that trip this week only to see Saints limp out of the League Cup with a team that could best be described as a reserve one, that distance might as well have been to the moon and back.

It won't make that defeat any the easier. You can argue about the League Cup as much as you want but for whoever sponsors the cup it must be regarded as something of a PR disaster.

No one takes it seriously, at least not until you're within sniffing distance of Wembley. It raises the question – just who cares about the League Cup?

Obviously those people who attend the final at Wembley, but who cares about the road that leads there?

Attendances would indicate that not many of us care about it either which is a shame.

There are so many demands on our resources and, for many of us, yet another cup competition is just one expense too far.

If the League Cup is to survive then the powers that be need to reassess it dramatically,

reduce matchday prices and give people a reason to hand over their hard-earned cash.

"But surely the fans who went to Sunderland knew there would be a chance Saints would field a weakened side?" you might ask. "What's your problem?"

I don't have a problem with Saints fielding a reserve team squad for a game, just as long as the prices charged reflect that.

Not that I have any influence on the club whatsoever, but wouldn't it be a nice gesture if the club gave free transport to the game of their choice to the fans that made that journey?

MIDFIELD SWAP WITH MAN U? NO CHANCE

THE release of the England squad to face Chile and Germany this month saw three Saints players in it.

Amazing news in anyone's books, but made all the more impressive when you bear in mind that it didn't include Nathaniel Clyne or Luke Shaw.

Ask yourself, when was the last time you had five Saints first teamers who were of England international quality?

Just recently I had a conversation with a Manchester United fan who was incandescent with rage when I suggested to him that I wouldn't exchange any of our midfield with theirs.

They're Manchester United, how could I possibly suggest our midfield was better than theirs?

Simple, I replied. Morgan Schneiderlin, Victor Wanyama, Adam Lallana and James Ward Prowse.

In all seriousness, I wouldn't swap any of those players for any of theirs. Nani, Anderson, Cleverly, Carrick, Giggs, Valencia or Young, not one of them would I want, on current form, above our aforementioned players.

It's a tribute to not just our scouting system but our physio team that we not only have such a talented squad but keep them fit and out of the treatment room.

On every level this club seems to making massive strides.

I've mentioned it numerous times in this column and I make no apologies for repeating it.

Roy Hodgson himself stated: "You have to give an awful lot of credit to Southampton, because in the past they have provided some very important players to the Premier League, not least Gareth Bale, the world's most expensive player."

It proves the value of a good academy system and perhaps more young English players will come



TOO LATE THE HERO: Maya Yoshida celebrates his late cup goal against Sunderland.

through at other clubs."

The inclusion of the three players should serve as a stark reminder of just how far we have come as a football club in the last four years.

Who would've thought, when we were on -10 points in League One, that this club would suddenly have three players in the national squad and another two knocking firmly on the door?

While the position we are in is amazing and we should enjoy the moment let's not forget the journey that took us to where we are.

I may be mistaken but I have noticed, on online forums mainly, a small sense of arrogance about our rise to success in the Premier League.

These forums were awash with posts about how we as a club have become too big for the League Cup and how challenging for European football is the way forward.

It may be my own humble opinion, but until we've amassed a collection of silverware, we're in no position to get blasé about competitions like the League Cup.

One of my favourite moments of supporting Southampton over the last 15 to 20 years was watching Saints win at Wembley in the JPT final.

I will always be of the opinion that it gave this club a feeling of achievement, of becoming winners and kick-started the current revolution.

A trip to Wembley is a trip to Wembley, it shouldn't matter if it's the FA Cup final, the Champions League final or JPT final.

To see your club win a trophy at Wembley is the apex of any football fan's journey.

You can be sure that if we got to a League Cup final, we would see all those people who think that trophy is beneath us there in spades.

The club that have genuine ambitions in regards to being a top-five side.

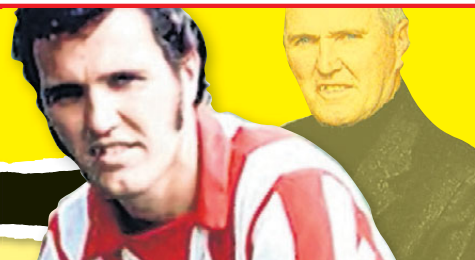
While we should savour the moment, we must not forget the journey and keep our feet firmly on the ground.

We must remember where we came from.

READ THE ADAM RANT COLUMN ON PAGE 9

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



MASTER OF THE MIND GAMES

WHEN Jose Mourinho returned to the helm of Chelsea in the summer, he labelled himself as the "Happy One".

Claiming to be a more mature manager, less prone to extravagant outbursts and the man capable of filling the void left by Sir Alex Ferguson as the responsible elder statesman of the league's managers.

A father figure in some ways. Few believed him then, and even fewer believe him now.

Confrontation and intimidation have been some of Mourinho's most effective weapons of management in years gone by, and it seems old habits die hard.

During the first few weeks of the season, Mourinho's temper was seemingly kept under wraps, his team were performing.

As the weeks have gone by however, we've seen the explosive temperament re-appear with public criticisms of Kevin De Bruyne, Juan Mata, Fernando Torres and even Eden Hazard.

Opposing managers and officials haven't escaped the wrath of the Portuguese either recently.

Sent to the stands for his extravagant explosion of anger directed at referee Anthony Taylor during the win over Cardiff City, Mourinho, pictured below, then riled Manchester City boss Manuel Pellegrini with a volatile and peculiar post match celebration after his side's win at the Bridge, confirming the full range of his mind-bending tricks are flowing once again.

So when Mourinho said he made "11 mistakes" in his team selection following the 2-0 defeat against Newcastle a week ago, it's fair to say we have not lost the Jose of old and been left with a mild-mannered imposter.

The new calm, polite Mourinho we were promised has been hastily been annexed by the old familiar firebrand who attracts attention, but don't for a moment believe the recent examples of 'Joseisms' were any kind of accident.

This is a manager who has always done everything for a reason, and he confirmed as much when he offered a fascinating contribution to the recently published book entitled *The Manager* as he revealed an ability to invent a persona to suit the environment he finds himself in.

"I think that, as a manager, you are always a leader, but sometimes you can be a different kind of leader," he said in the book. "The first time at Chelsea, I was a



IMPACT:
Roberto Martinez.

Martinez so quick to impress

IT WAS a summer of upheaval in the Premier League, with a number of new managers trying to implement their philosophies on their new club.

In some cases, the change has yet to yield consistent results, but in one particular case it has been an unmitigated success.

Notorious slow starters, Everton have made a solid if unspectacular start to the season.

With 19 points so far, it is their best start to a campaign since 2004-05, the year they finished fourth.

After 11 years at Goodison, David Moyes finally parted ways with the club and his replacement, Roberto Martinez, was met with little fanfare.

Detractors pointed to his relegation with Wigan and their dire defensive record as proof that he would be out of his depth higher up the table.

What they didn't account for was his ability to create a team on a shoestring budget, something that undoubtedly attracted Bill Kenwright to the Spaniard.

Perhaps most tellingly for those that follow the club has been the overhaul of their playing philosophy and the instant success that it has yielded.

Unflinching in his approach, Martinez has always gotten his team to play the game the right way.

His continental, possession based approach got the ball rolling at Swansea, whose subsequent managers, Brendan Rodgers and Michael Laudrup have emulated his approach.

It was at Wigan, however, that he made his name, guiding a threadbare team to safety on three occasions before they eventually fell through the trapdoor last season.

The disappointment of relegation was offset, though, by their FA Cup victory and a first foray into Europe.

A remarkable achievement for a club that finds itself playing second fiddle to a

rugby league team.

There is no doubt about it, though; this will be his toughest task to date, building on the legacy of Moyes.

Having inherited a solid and dependable squad, Martinez has once again made use of loan signings, something that he has benefitted from in the past.

Managers seem more than willing to "lend" him their players, in the knowledge that they will return as better footballers than they left.

Track record

He has a proven track record when it comes to nurturing talent, something that plays into his motivational and coaching skills.

James McCarthy and Victor Moses improved considerably under Martinez's tutelage.

Charles N'Zogbia had his two best seasons in a career that has tailed off since they parted ways.

Manchester United benefitted from sending Tom Cleverly to Wigan, with the midfielder deemed good enough for an England call-up on his return.

He is not afraid of giving youth a chance, putting his faith in Ross Barkley this season and being paid back handsomely with some eye-catching performances.

The same can be said for another loanee, Romelu Lukaku. Jose Mourinho knew that the big Belgian needed to be playing if he was to continue his development, and Goodison Parks seems a good fit for the bustling front man.

His man-management is one of his many strengths, as is his handling with the media.

Eloquent and friendly, Martinez is a favourite of the media and he often uses this to his advantage, praising players or misdirecting attention in order to give his team the freedom to express themselves.

As a student of the game, Martinez

understands that players are not machines built to play football, claiming "I deal with human beings Monday to Friday and I deal with footballers on Saturday."

It is in the way Everton play that we have seen the biggest transformation.

Gone is the defensive-minded approach of yesteryear, and in its place we have seen an assured, measured style that has allowed Everton to dictate proceedings in most of their matches this season.

The players have burgeoned since being granted the freedom to express themselves, while Gareth Barry and James McCarthy have formed a combative and settled midfield.

The loss of Fellaini to Manchester United and Darron Gibson to injury has been rendered mute.

The players have revelled in his approach to training as well as his footballing philosophy.

He has instilled belief in them on the training field through focusing on the individual battles that happen across the pitch.

He believes that if his team can win more of these battles than the opposition, then they're in a good position to win as a team. It's difficult to argue with the results so far.

Their only defeat came against Manchester City, and they have yet to lose a league game at home all year.

It has been an almost perfect start to his tenure, although it would be foolish to read too much into what amounts to nothing more than a honeymoon period.

He has given a different dimension to a team that was beginning to stale under Moyes.

And while he is enjoying success with the previous boss's players, he has made a positive impact on Goodison Park.

The players are still learning the boundaries of his system, which seem a lot more flexible than the previous regime.

Where will all of this lead them? Not even the eloquent Spaniard knows, but it sure is enjoyable to watch them go.

confrontational leader because I felt that was what the team needed at the time. The guys desperately needed to make the jump from potential to reality, and they needed the kind of leader I was.

"I called it confrontational leadership, confrontation not just inside, but also outside the group. We were not afraid to say we are the best, we were not afraid to say we are

going to win, or we are special, we are going to prove that we are, so it was perfect."

In essence, Mourinho uses threatening behaviour as a tactic to fire up his own players and unsettle his rivals. With his aggressive man-management style successful in draining the best out of the players he puts his faith in.

Of course, such a high-risk policy can backfire and Mourinho's methods left a trail of destruction behind him at Real Madrid, with the likes of Iker Casillas, Pepe, Sergio Ramos and the whole Madrid football press among those who rejected their coach's abrasiveness and challenged his authority. He has also been accused of leaving no legacy at any of his previous clubs.

Yet the enduring loyalty

Mourinho seems to command from his chosen few suggests he knows how to handle the egos of a modern-day soccer superstar, with the likes of Frank Lampard, Didier Drogba, John Terry, Luka Modric, Xabi Alonso and Samuel Eto'o all sworn advocates of the Jose mantra.

His eagerness to take all the responsibility for results, to protect his players from criticism, means those around him are compelled to repay him for the faith he shows in them.

He gets into a player's mind and helps him to perform, in a way few before him have ever mastered. It is part of his brilliance.

In addition, Mourinho promotes a notion that you follow his lead and sign up for everything he stands for, or face being jettisoned and humili-

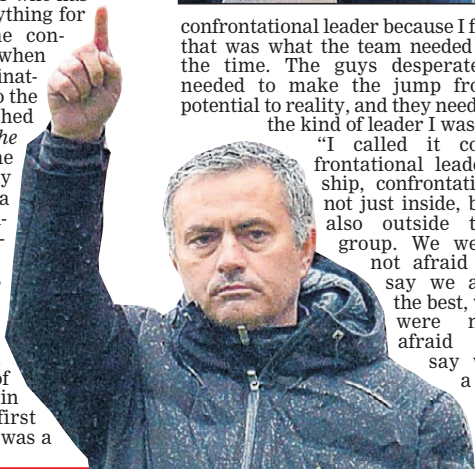
ated in less than edifying fashion in front of the watching world.

This master of the mind games would rather keep the banished souls who have failed to buy into his methods like Casillas or Mata at his club to remind others what could happen to them if they fall out of line.

No reputation is too big to take on, no talent too brilliant to drop, and everyone who works under Mourinho appreciates as much.

So when Mourinho shouldered the blame for his side's defeat at St James' a week ago, it may have grabbed the headlines in the Sunday morning papers.

But really, his words were crafted to weigh heavily on the minds of those inside the Chelsea dressing room.



Saints Spotlight



SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2013/14

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
AUGUST															
Sat 17	West Brom(A)	W 1-0	Boruc	Chambers	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	W-Prowse***	Lallana*	Rodriguez**	Lambert 1	Ramirez*	S Davis**
Sat 24	Sunderland(H)	D 1-1	Boruc	Chambers	Fonte 1	Lovren	Shaw*	Wanyama	Schneiderlin**	W-Prowse	Lallana***	Rodriguez	Lambert	Clyne*	Osvaldo**
Tue 27	Barnsley (CCC 2) . . .(A)	W 5-1	K Davis	Clyne	Fonte	Yoshida	Fox	Cork	S Davis 2	Isgrove*	Ramirez 1	Rodriguez** 1	Mayuka*** 1	Rowe*	Sinclair***
Sat 31	Norwich(A)	L 0-1	Boruc	Chambers	Fonte	Lovren	Fox	Wanyama	Schneiderlin**	W-Prowse	Osvaldo***	Lallana*	Lambert	Ramirez*	Rodriguez***
SEPTEMBER															
Sun 15	West Ham(H)	D 0-0	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw**	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	Rodriguez	Osvaldo	Lallana*	Lambert	W-Prowse*	Chambers**
Sat 21	Liverpool(A)	W 1-0	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren 1	Shaw	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	Rodriguez**	Osvaldo	Lallana**	Lambert*	S Davis*	W-Prowse**
Tues 24	Bristol City (CCC 3) (H)	W 2-0	K Davis	Chambers	Yoshida	Hooiveld 1	Fox	Cork	S Davis***	W-Prowse	Ramirez 1	Do Prado**	Lee*	Rodriguez*	Cork***
Sat 28	Crystal Palace(H)	W 2-0	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	S Davis*	Osvaldo 1	Lallana***	Lambert** 1	W-Prowse*	Ramirez***
OCTOBER															
Sat 5	Swansea(H)	W 2-0	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Fox	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	S Davis***	Osvaldo*	Lallana 1	Lambert	W-Prowse*	Rodriguez** 1
Sat 19	Man United(A)	D 1-1	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw	Wanyama***	Schneiderlin	S Davis**	Lallana 1	Rodriguez*	Osvaldo	Lambert*	Do Prado***
Sat 26	Fulham(H)	W 2-0	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	W-Prowse**	Rodriguez* 1	Lallana	Lambert 1	Do Prado*	Cork**
NOVEMBER															
Sat 2	Stoke(A)	D 1-1	Boruc	Clyne	Fonte	Lovren	Shaw	Wanyama	Schneiderlin	W-Prowse	Rodriguez* 1	Lallana	Lambert	Ramirez*	Gallagher***
Sat 9	Hull(H)	L 1-2	K Davis	Chambers	Yoshida 1	Hooiveld	Fox	Cork	Reed	S Davis**	Ramirez***	Rodriguez	Lee*	W-Prowse*	Lallana**
Sat 23	Arsenal(A)														
DECEMBER															
Sun 1	Chelsea(A)														
Wed 4	Aston Villa(H)														
Sat 7	Manchester City . . .(H)														
Sat 14	Newcastle(A)														
Sat 21	Tottenham(H)														
Thu 26	Cardiff(A)														
Sat 28	Everton(A)														
JANUARY															
Wed 1	Chelsea(H)														
Sat 11	West Brom(H)														
Sat 18	Sunderland(A)														
Tue 28	Arsenal(H)														
FEBRUARY															
Sat 1	Fulham(A)														
Sat 8	Stoke(H)														
Tue 11	Hull(A)														
Sat 22	West Ham(A)														
MARCH															
Sat 1	Liverpool(H)														
Sat 8	Crystal Palace(A)														
Sat 15	Norwich(H)														
Sat 22	Tottenham(A)														
Sat 29	Newcastle(H)														
APRIL															
Sat 5	Manchester City(A)														
Sat 12	Cardiff(H)														
Sat 19	Aston Villa(A)														
Sat 26	Everton(H)														
MAY															
Sat 3	Swansea(A)														
Sun 11	Man United(H)														

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG		LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG		LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
KELVIN DAVIS	0	0	3	0	286(1)	0	JACK CORK	0(3)	0	3	0	99(11)	0	RICKIE LAMBERT	9(1)	3	0	0	195(11)	106
PAULO GAZZANIGA	0	0	0	0	11	0	VICTOR WANYAMA	10	0	0	0	10	0	JAY RODRIGUEZ	7(2)	3	2(1)	1	35(14)	13
ARTUR BORUC	10	0	0	0	31	0	MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN	10	0	0	0	177(28)	8	DANI OSVALDO	6(1)	1	0	0	6(1)	1
NATHANIEL CLYNE	7(1)	0	1	0	42(1)	1	ADAM LALLANA	10	2	0(1)	0	210(24)	52	TADANARI LEE	0	0	2	0	9(5)	2
CALUM CHAMBERS	3(1)	0	2	0	5(2)	0	STEVE DAVIS	3(2)	0	3	2	29(13)	4	EMMANUEL MAYUKA	0	0	1	1	3(10)	1
DEJAN LOVREN	10	1	0	0	10	1	JAMES WARD-PROWSE	5(5)	0	1(1)	0	16(18)	1	BILLY SHARP	0	0	0	0	12(6)	10
JOSE FONTE	10	1	1	0	152(3)	13	JASON PUNCHEON	0	0	0	0	70(10)	10	SAM GALLAGHER	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0
JOS HOOIVELD	0	0	2	1	68(3)	9	LLOYD ISGROVE	0	0	1	0	1(1)	0	HARRISON REED	0	0	1(2)	0	1(2)	0
MAYA YOSHIDA	0	0	3	1	36(1)	1	OMAR ROWE	0	0	0(2)	0	0(2)	0							
LUKE SHAW	8(1)	0	0	0	32(6)	0	JAKE SINCLAIR	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0							
DANNY FOX	2	0	3	0	57(10)	1	GASTON RAMIREZ	0(4)	0	3	2	23(10)	7							
JACK STEPHENS	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	GULY DO PRADO	0(3)	0	1	0	78(31)	22							

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

Adam Rant



This week's big talking points
with **Adam Leitch**

Second string suffers fall in Capital stock

NO MATTER what people say about the potential of a home quarter-final with Chelsea, the Capital One Cup was never going to be Saints' priority this season.

Therefore defeat to Sunderland in the fourth round was hardly reason to sob too loudly or complain during what has generally been a magnificent start to the season.

However, it would be remiss not to accept there were a few worrying elements to the defeat.

They were namely the performances of many of the fringe players.

The competition is basically a glorified reserve league for most top flight sides these days, even some lower down the ladder too with chasing the riches of the Premier League comfortably taking priority.

But with that in mind getting those crucial minutes for the fringe players and bleeding some youngsters is important.

Saints have done pretty well with injuries and suspensions over the past few years, and this season has been no exception with the same handful of players generating most of the success.

But there might come a time when they need to call upon some of the players that have featured in the Capital One Cup.

On the evidence at Sunderland quite a few didn't look ready for such a call, and there was even a question over whether a couple would actually be good enough. This against an also much changed team who are bottom of the league.

There is no reason for panic or complaint in a great season, but there are a few warning signs as to where Saints still need to strengthen in January to continue their charge.

Nadal's year is greatest of all

NO MATTER who ends up winning the World Tour finals in London this week-end Rafael Nadal can rightly be considered to have had the greatest year in tennis history.

Others may have won more Grand Slams in a year, some might have picked up more overall wins or dominated the world number one spot from start to finish, but Nadal's, pictured below, remarkable achievements surpass all that.

The Spaniard was forced out of the game for more than six months with a knee injury.

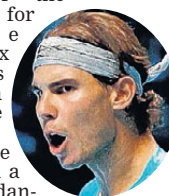
There seemed a real danger he may never be fit enough to return to the sport, or perhaps only play on the most forgiving surface of clay.

However, he has returned and in some style. Nadal tentatively hit the courts again in February not quite sure what the future held for him.

By the end of 2013 he has notched up two Grand Slams, a hatful of other trophies, enough wins to make this his most successful ever year – quite some feat given his previously high standards – and has finished the season world number one.

The greatest ever question is always a tough one for a variety of reasons, but finding something more remarkable than what Nadal has achieved this season is tough.

To go from questions of enforced retirement to the king of the hill again deserves to be considered up there with the greatest sporting achievements of all time.



OPEN AND SHUT CASE:
Michael Carberry.

MICHAEL Carberry looks a certainty for a dream Ashes call-up – if he doesn't get one it will be a travesty.

The Hampshire man's marvellous innings in the warm-up game against Australia A simply has to get him included in the Test side.

The selectors tried to show faith in the batting line-up as it was in the summer but a successful Ashes campaign merely papered over the cracks.

England's bowlers consistently won their side games and got the batsmen out of trouble.

Alistair Cook must surely know that they won't get away with it again in Australia.

Talk as to whether Carberry's knock will earn him only his second Test cap feels somewhat reminiscent of Matt Le Tissier scoring a hat-trick for the England B team

and then being overlooked by Glenn Hoddle for the World Cup in 1998.

Simply Carberry has to be included, as Le Tissier should have been then.

There is a time and a place for consistency, and goodness knows England have been too quick to chop and change in the past, but you need form players as well and Carberry has to be considered that.

As this is the last Adam Rant column before the Ashes kicks off it's worth making a prediction that will probably seem quite hilarious in a few months.

England will retain the Ashes but it won't be quite as straightforward as it was in the summer.

With such a quick turnaround between the series neither side will have changed or developed that much, which is to England's advantage.

Also they have the weaponry that playing on the bouncier surfaces Down Under could be a plus for them as well as the Aussies, especially if whoever they pick from Chris Tremlett, Steven Finn or Boyd Rankin does well.

Danger

Despite the fact that the Australia we will see now is largely the same Australia that were so below par for long spells of the first few Tests of the summer, there is a feeling they might be improving, and the potential recall of the enigmatic Mitchell Johnson could spell danger.

England have felt a little more stagnant, hence the need to shake up the batting order a bit.

It suggests a good series. As per usual Shane Warne has weighed in to try and stir things up.

What he says is actually correct – Cook is a very conservative captain.

To be totally honest England are not a particularly entertaining side to watch under his leadership.

But, and here's the crucial part, they are effective.

He might be pressed into being a bit more creative in Oz as there are bound to be backs to the wall moments.

Thus far he hasn't really had to do that as captain as England have been largely dominant. The tried and trusted formula has worked so there has been no need to change it.

If England do struggle at times and Cook doesn't respond then Warne's criticisms will be valid.

As it stands though the England skipper will be hoping to grind out another Ashes triumph, and that won't earn too many complaints from the Barmy Army.

Masterstroke or madness ...

THE Republic of Ireland's decision to appoint Martin O'Neill, pictured below, and Roy Keane as joint managers was interesting to say the least.

It's pretty obvious that it will either be a masterstroke or look like a moment of sheer insanity. It's hard to imagine any middle ground on this one.



CHERRIES FIXTURES

AUGUST

Sat 3	Charlton (H)W 2-1
Grabban 2	
Tues 6	P'mouth LC1 (H) . .W 1-0
O'Kane	
Sat 10	Watford (A)L 1-6
Grabban	
Sat 17	Wigan (H)W 1-0
Grabban	
Sat 24	Huddersfield (A) . . .L 1-5
Pugh	
Wed 28	Watford (LC2) (A) . .L 0-2
Sat 31	Doncaster (A)W 1-0
Pitman	

SEPTEMBER

Sat 14	Blackpool (H)L 1-2
Grabban	
Tue 17	Barnsley (H)W 1-0
Pugh	
Sat 21	Middlesbrough (A) . .D 3-3
Pitman (2), OG	
Sat 28	Blackburn (H)L 1-3
Fraser	

OCTOBER

Tues 1	Leeds (A)L 1-2
Grabban	
Sat 5	Millwall (H)W 5-2
Fraser, Cook, Arter, Grabban, Pitman	
Sat 19	Nottm Forest (A) . . .D 1-1
Pugh	
Sat 26	Leicester (A)L 1-2
Pugh	

NOVEMBER

Sat 2	Bolton (H)L 0-2
Sat 9	Burnley(A)
Sat 23	Derby(H)
Sat 30	Brighton(A)

DECEMBER

Tues 3	QPR(A)
Sat 7	Reading(A)
Sat 14	Birmingham(H)
Sat 21	Sheff Wed(A)
Thur 26	Yeovil(H)
Sun 29	Ipswich(A)

JANUARY

Wed 1	Brighton(A)
Sat 11	Wigan(A)
Sat 18	Watford(H)
Sat 25	Charlton(A)
Tues 28	Huddersfield(H)

FEBRUARY

Sat 1	Leicester(H)
Sat 8	Bolton(A)
Sat 15	Burnley(H)
Sat 22	Derby(A)

MARCH

Sat 1	Doncaster(H)
Sat 8	Blackpool(A)
Wed 12	Blackburn(A)
Sat 15	Middlesbrough(H)
Sat 22	Barnsley(A)
Tues 25	Leeds(H)
Sat 29	Birmingham(A)

APRIL

Sat 5	QPR (H)
Tues 8	Reading(H)
Sat 12	Yeovil(A)
Fri 18	Sheff Wed(H)
Mon 21	Ipswich(A)
Sat 26	Notts Forest(H)

MAY

Sat 3	Millwall(A)
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Saints Spotlight

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: DUO'S

2,000 Saints in autograph collection

CARDBOARD boxes, old ornaments and dust-filled memories of bygone times, are things you'd usually find in the back room of an average house.

About two thousand signatures of past and present Saints players, on the other hand, aren't exactly everyday items, *writes PETER HOWARD.*

But that is exactly what Steve, 46, and Michael Morrison, 18, store in their surplus room.

In among home-distilled bottles of wine, *Doctor Who* memorabilia and family photos, an epic collection is sprawled across a table.

The collection was started 11 years ago when Steve took Michael to Matt Le Tissier's testimonial.

Michael, who was at the time undecided on who to support, with most of his friends opting for

'I grabbed Benali's autograph. He took my pen afterwards!'

Manchester United or Liverpool, was taken aside by Dell favourite Francis Benali and told he should be a Saints fan.

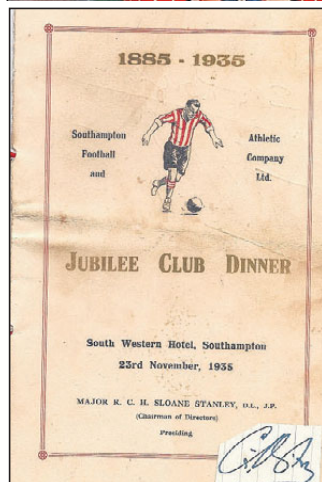
From that day, Michael and life-long fan Steve have supported the club together.

"I grabbed Benali's autograph. He took my pen afterwards! I wasn't happy about that," Michael joked. "We got a few more that evening too, which really ignited my interest."

Unlike most fans, who would have just been pleased to get Benali and Le Tissier's autograph that day, the father and son duo decided to embark on an epic collecting mission.

"We suddenly thought 'we have a lot of autographs here'. After visiting different players and going to AFC Totton and Eastleigh matches, it suddenly grew in size," Michael recalled.

"I said to dad 'I wonder if we can get every autograph from the *In*



RARE ITEM: CB Fry's signature on a Saints jubilee dinner menu from 1935.

That Number Book?, then we thought 'well, not all the players are in this book so why don't we try and go for all of them?'"

In That Number is a book that chronicles Saints' history from the post war era until the end of the 2002/03 campaign.

"It was a very casual start to our collection," said Steve.

"We played in an ex Saints match at AFC Totton - that was probably the catalyst for it all."

"I ended up saving a Le Tissier penalty," said Steve.

"Le Tissier then set up Michael to score a goal at the end of the game."

"After the match, we got autographs of everyone there and that's

when we really got interested in the ex Saints.

"We took the autographs along and it developed. We suddenly knew we had some really good autographs and we wanted more and more."

"It moved on from a bit of fun to a complete obsession - then onto a compulsion."

Their rule is anyone who has played a role at the club, not just on the pitch, can be put into their collection.

From Tommy Forecast, Leandre Griffit and Lucien Mettomo, through to Rickie Lambert, Kevin Keegan, Alan Shearer and Peter Rodrigues, the pair have acquired them all.

SAINTS SEASON 2013/14 STATISTICS - SEE PAGE 8

Saints Spotlight

QUOTES of the week

"The journey up the road was good as well thanks to big Joe's treat. As his punishment, he had to buy all the boys a fish supper as a way of saying sorry to everyone, which was decent" – Aberdeen's Peter Pawlett reveals teammate Joe Shaughnessy's punishment for his dismissal against Motherwell.

"It was not the most subtle thing we have done, but it was not meant to be provocative at all. It could be interpreted like that, but it was not our purpose" – Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger defends his club's summer approach for Liverpool striker Luis Suarez.

"I made 11 mistakes, 11 mistakes. I should have picked another 11 and not this one. I made 11 mistakes" – Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho, below, admits he got his selection wrong following the surprise 2-0 defeat at Newcastle.



"He was determined to continue and looked concentrated, driven and focused enough for me not to make the call to replace him. The saves he did after the incident proved that right" – Tottenham manager Andre Villas-Boas defends his decision not to replace goalkeeper Hugo Lloris after he took a heavy blow to the head in a collision with Everton striker Romelu Lukaku.

"He can be negative, boring, not very imaginative – and still win and be happy. But I'll tell you my opinion – I think Alastair Cook has to be more imaginative. I think if Australia play well, and he continues to captain the way he does, England will lose the series" – Former Australia spinner Shane Warne is not a fan of England Test captain Alastair Cook's tactics.



"I've certainly learnt over time that there's no point wasting energy trying to find compliments from Australians" – England batsman Ian Bell shrugs off Warne's latest comments.

"I'd probably be the smallest enforcer in the world! I'm pretty light. I've always had that mindset where you give your body to the fans, to the rugby and the team. What happens, happens" – Northampton lock Courtney Lawes, pictured above is reluctant to be viewed as England's 'enforcer'.

Continued on opposite page

2,000 SAINTS SIGNINGS



SIGN HERE, PLEASE: A poster of Saints' FA Cup final winning team and, right, a Ted Bates dinner menu from 1993.

From page 11

"Another strange story – we didn't get an autograph out of it unfortunately – but this guy contacted from an oil rig off the coast of Brazil," Steve said.

"He is Icelandic and living in Norway but working off the coast of Brazil ... he set up the Icelandic Saints Supporters' Club.

"He explained his favourite players were Terry Paine, Channon and Le Tissier.

"So we sent them our duplicates of those. I just couldn't believe that there was an Icelandic Saints fan based in Brazil but living in Norway."

More locally, the father and son team have had help from people and clubs up and down the UK. "Plymouth Legends were great to us; they put us in touch with a couple of their members – Andy Rogers and Richard Davis, who played for Saints in the 1960s.

Davis made his only appearance in a 4-0 loss to Plymouth, standing in for Denis Hollywood.

He went onto have spells at Bristol

The missing 20 post-war autographs

Alex Anderson1949-52
Ryan Ashford2000-01
Mike Berry1974-75
Nicholas Bignall . . .2010-11
Tommy Bogan1951-53
Gordon Brown1959-62
Ali Dia1996-97
Hugh Lindsay1960-61
Zoltan Liptak2009-10
Martin McGrath1979-80

Stuart McManus . . .1985-86
Bernard Pask1959-60
Tomas Pekhart2008-09
Lee Powell1990-94
Ryan Smith2008-09
Duncan Spedding . .1997-98
Alastair Sperring . .1983-84
Eddie Thomas1950-52
Jim Whittle1953-54
Ken Wilkins1950-51

City, Barrow and Falmouth after starting his career at the Pilgrims.

"It's very humbling and overwhelming the response we've had from the football community," Steve said.

"We've now ticked off the current

players that have recently debuted for the club.

"We know someone who works at Staplewood. He's able to get in there and get us those autographs. He's more than happy to do that."

They've now collected all the cur-

rent squad and are ready to pounce on any new stars that take to the St Mary's pitch.

"We'll have to get those players that take their bow in the future, the likes of Matt Targett and Jason McCarthy, who could have come off the bench against Bristol City a few weeks ago," Michael said.

"We do think ahead – lining up autographs before we need them but at the moment we're so up to date there is no need.

"We will, though, think about players that are at the club but are yet to play."

It would come as little surprise to many that the elusive Ali Dia, who famously made one appearance for Saints under Graeme Souness in 1996 against Leeds, isn't in the collection.

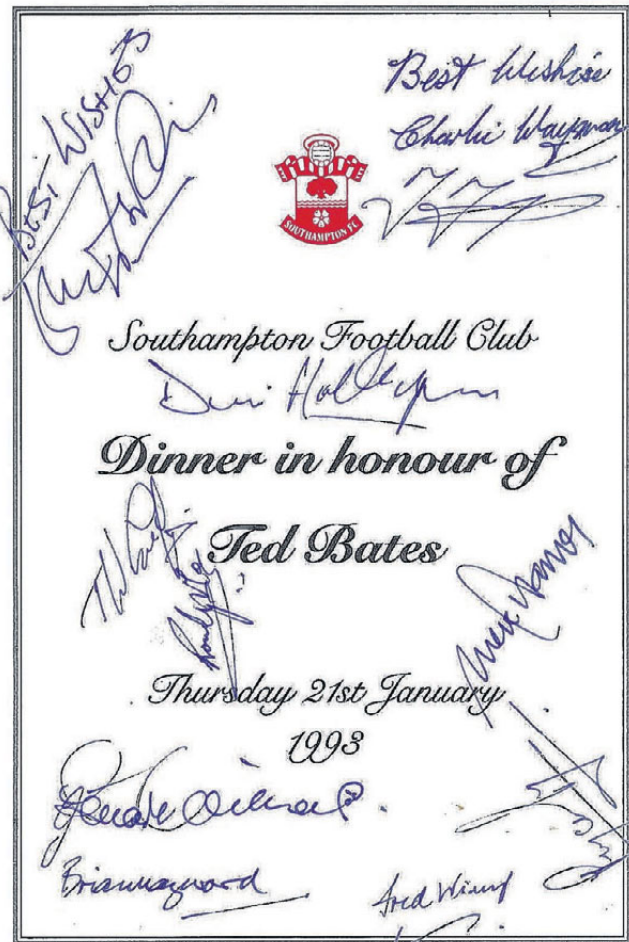
Dia falsely claimed to be the cousin of FIFA World Player of the Year George Weah to deceive the club into signing him.

The Senegalese player, who was last seen at Northumbria University where he reportedly studied business, lasted half an hour before being substituted and immediately

SAINTS v HULL REACTION IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Saints Spotlight

IN EPIC COLLECTION



released from his month long contract.

Dia has been on the wanted list indefinitely and the father and son team recently thought they'd made a breakthrough.

"We had a response from someone saying they had Ali Dia on a programme in the game he played," Steve explained.

"He hasn't been able to come through with it unfortunately. I'm sure he had it - I think he got rid of a load of programmes and it might have gone out with them.

"He's very enigmatic but hopefully some time we can track him down."

Despite collecting legends like Le Tissier, Benali, Channon and more, the pair have been left frustrated after trying to capture some more obscure former Saints.

Among them are Ryan Smith - last seen in Xanthi in Greece - Zoltan Liptak - who plays for Hungarian side Gyori ETO FC - and Tomas Pekhart, who is playing for Nuremberg in the German Bundesliga.

But, for the father and son team, each player has the same value.

"Nobody's number one," Steve admitted.

"Everyone has made a contribution to the club so whether you've made 500 appearances for the club or made two substitute appearances, it doesn't matter.

"They represented the club and for sentimental value alone, it's all a level playing field," added Michael.

Now, Steve and Michael have set foot in the maze of pre-war and wartime Saints autograph hunting. Stanley Rous, FIFA President between 1961 and 1974, and George Reader, who refereed the fourth World Cup final in 1950 and made three appearances for Saints, are already among the collection.

Charlie Mitten, a Manchester United legend who played for Saints during the war years, and Ollie Barnes, who did the same and is an Arsenal legend, make up some of their wartime set.

"Saints had some quite incredible guests down at The Dell during World War Two, they were massive names and it's an honour that they played for the club" Steve said.

"We have players who lost their

lives in the First World War - I don't know how to quantify that; they've played for the club but they paid the ultimate price and lost their lives for the country.

"It's been an incredible journey to go on; not only chasing the autographs, but learning the history and owning some of this wonderful memorabilia is a real privilege.

"We've met new people and friends along the way.

"In fact we've picked up one dealer called 'Attasquash' on Ebay - she had some pre-war autographs and it has seen some quite incredible players come out of it.

"The most ironic part about this great relationship is that she's a Pompey fan.

"People often ask us how we know if it's a genuine autograph - I guess the bottom line is, that you don't but, when you look at a piece, you can just feel its genuine or tell that it's a fake.

"We've seen offers on Ebay that don't coincide with our research - when I see something I think 'no, that not real.'

"We've had ones where the owner

has gone over with a marker pen to make it more prominent."

So far the pair has not got their collection valued but believes some individual pieces are worth four figures.

Despite that hefty price tag they've failed, so far, to insure the collection, which Michael plans to keep and continue for a long time to come with intentions to make it a Morrison family tradition.

They also welcome the idea of the collection taking pride of place in St Mary's, but are so far yet to be offered that move.

Most recently, they have ticked off 2008-10 Saint Kyle McLaggan from Weston Super Mare, Pat Kennedy - who made two appearances for Saints in 1959/60 - and Derek Allen, who played one game in 1992/93.

Steve and Michael intend to finish their post war collection and build heavily on their pre war hunt.

If you can help, email stevey-ot@sky.com

QUOTES of the week

"We have worked hard here for two and a half years, in terms of my staff and the players we have brought to the club over the last two-and-half years to get to a point like this" - Cardiff manager Malky Mackay makes a thinly-veiled dig at club owner Vincent Tan after the side's 1-0 derby win over Swansea.

"Well, I think I'm the bad cop and he's the bad, bad cop" - Martin O'Neill on whether having him and Roy Keane, right, as the Republic of Ireland's new management team is a marriage made in heaven.



"She (the doping control officer) did not clearly present him all the severe consequences that he will have if he avoids that. She told him that he needs to write a report and that he will be just fine. And because of her negligence and because of her unprofessionalism, he is now off the tour for one year. And now it makes me nervous as a player to do any kind of test. I don't have trust in them anymore. I don't have trust in what's going on" - Novak Djokovic claims the case of Viktor Troicki, who had a one-year ban confirmed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport for missing a doping test while ill, has made him doubt the entire testing system.

"We were light metal" - Arsene Wenger, below, reflects on Arsenal's 1-0 win at Borussia Dortmund, after all the pre-match

hype had been over Jürgen Klopp's "heavy metal" approach looking to overcome Wenger's Arsenal "orchestra".

"We'll have to wait and see where Arsenal are in March. We've seen before that they've been in the top two until February or March and then faded away" - Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney casts doubt on Arsenal's title credentials.

"I don't want to lie. He's not injured. He forgot the time (and missed a crucial training session). Let's end the story. He's a kid, kids make mistakes and fathers... they have to be clever in the way they educate their sons. He didn't play, he wanted to play. He's sad because he wanted to play. We won without him and Saturday he's back. End of story" - Jose Mourinho explains Eden Hazard's omission for Wednesday's 3-0 Champions League win over Schalke.



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Non-league Football

Non-league News

Brown a hit at Gosport

GOSPORT Borough boss Alex Pike has dubbed former Eastleigh war horse Jamie Brown his "Captain Marvel".

Southampton-based Brown – now skipper at Privett Park – dug up a last-ditch leveller to rescue Borough a 1-1 draw at Whitehawk last weekend in the Skril Conference South.

The game had entered the third minute of stoppage time when Brown, pictured below, punished Whitehawk for failing to clear their lines by powering home a left-foot volley – his sixth goal of the campaign.

Praising the versatile midfielder/striker, Pike said: "Ever since I made him skipper, he has been Captain Marvel."

"What he may lack in technical ability, he certainly makes up for in terms of effort, passion and driving his teammates on. If I could play football at this level, I would like to play like Jamie Brown."

Gosport – who entertain Brown's old club Eastleigh in the league this Tuesday (November 12) – have been drawn at home to fellow Conference South strugglers Dorchester Town in the FA Trophy third qualifying round next Saturday (November 16).



Skrill gong for Stringer

BISHOP'S Stortford's Rod Stringer has been named Skril Conference South manager-of-the-month for October.

Stringer led the Blues up to third in the table with three straight wins and also masterminded a 1-0 FA Cup win over Forest Green Rovers, earning them a live TV clash at home to Northampton Town tomorrow (Sunday, 2pm kick-off, ITV1).

The player-of-the-month honour also went Stortford's way with highly-rated striker Kyle Vassell's five goals in five games clinching him the prize.

The Skril Premier awards went to Gateshead's Gary Mills (manager) and Cambridge United goalkeeper Chris Maxwell (player).

Malone: Verwood's ground is 'a dump'

VERWOOD Town boss Adie Arnold certainly won't feature on Dave Malone's Christmas list.

Malone, Winchester City's director of football, was seriously unimpressed with Arnold's comments regarding Graham Kemp's departure from the Denplan City Ground.

It was Verwood who beat Winchester 1-0 in Kemp's last game in charge and Potters' boss Arnold, pictured below,

later admitted that his joy at beating one the Syd n h a m s Premier t i t l e



favourites had been tempered by the departure of the former Christchurch manager after just 15 league games at the City helm.

Commenting on Kemp's time at Winchester, Arnold said: "I don't know too many details but, looking at it from the outside, it has been a very difficult job for Graham."

"If you are the manager, you have got to be allowed to manage, and I don't think he has been."

Malone didn't take kindly to those remarks, suggesting Arnold should keep his nose out of Winchester's business and concentrate on keeping his own house in order at Verwood.

He said: "I read his comments in last week's *Pink* and the inference was that Kempy wasn't allowed to manage at Winchester."

"That's a load of old

trash and an insult to Kempy. And where does he get that opinion from anyway without any facts whatsoever?"

"It's rubbish to say Kempy wasn't allowed to manage."

"I try and find players if I can, but it's down to the manager what he does with the team."

Malone added: "If Verwood want to criticise they ought to look at themselves – their ground's a dump."

"Millbrook Rec's in better condition than their pitch, which, by the way, is not the reason we lost there, it was because we had no balls."

"But Verwood's ground must be the worst in the Wessex League."

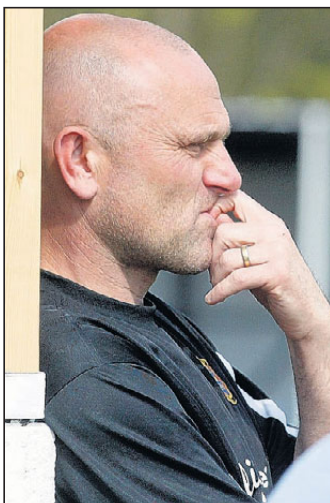
"I've never been anywhere like that before."

"So if Adie Arnold wants to have a pop, he should look a bit closer to home."



DAVE MALONE

Hards happy to be home again



WHEN Neil Hards led Winchester City to the Wessex top-flight title in 2003/04, their FA Vase-winning 'dream team' amassed 108 points from 42 games, scoring a phenomenal 151 goals and conceding just 35.

Realistically he can't expect to hit those heady heights again this season, but, having replaced Graham Kemp in the City hot seat, Hards still relishes the challenge of being back in a highly competitive Sydenhams Wessex League.

With Dave Diaper's Sholing having started the league campaign unbeaten and still going strong in the FA Vase, it looks as if the Boatmen are the team to beat this term.

"They're a really strong, powerful unit," said Hards, pictured left.

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

"I watched them beat Winchester by three in their Friday night league game and it was comfortable for them."

"They're well organised and they've got some really good players for this level of football."

"They're going to take some stopping in the league and with regard to the national competition (the FA Vase) too."

"But it's a strong Wessex League this season."

"There are five or six sides up near the top who are pretty much the same ability-wise – ourselves, Blackfield & Langley, Alresford, Newport IoW and, also, AFC Portchester, who are now up amongst it."

"Portchester are another good, well-organised unit and they've got some very good football people around the club."

"There's Graham Rix coaching, Mick Jenkins running the club and another good football man, (former Gosport Borough boss) Mick Marsh, is also there."

After leading Winchester through the most successful chapter in their history, Hards returned to management with Cirencester Town in 2006.

But travelling from Hampshire to Gloucestershire eventually wore him down and, having taken time to recharge his batteries, he is glad to be back on the local beat.

"It's appealing to be in the Wessex League again," said the former Portsmouth-based Cheltenham Town goalkeeper.

"Whereas Cirencester was a 200-mile round trip, Wessex games are

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE NEWS

Non-league Football

Burnett sorry to see Kemp go

THEY may have been title rivals, but Blackfield & Langley boss Glenn Burnett was sorry to see Graham Kemp's departure from Winchester City.

The pair have not always seen eye to eye, but Burnett has huge respect for what Kemp did during six successful seasons with Christchurch and believes he will come back all the stronger once he puts his all-too-brief Winchester experience behind him.

"He'll learn from what's happened," he said.

"Kempy had six really good years with Christchurch and he's a very good manager."

"He's clever with what he says in the newspapers – in fact he's had a few pops at me before! But I still like him, even though he didn't tip us, the reigning champions, to make the top five this year!" he laughed.

"I like Kempy as a manager and I like him as a person."

"He needs to get somewhere where he feels at home and he'll do well again."

Speaking in last week-end's *Pink*, Kemp said the enjoyment factor at Winchester was diminished by having groups of

players travelling in from different directions.

"It's not anywhere near as enjoyable when you've got one car-load coming in from Andover, one from Southampton and another from Bournemouth," he said.

"You get your little cliques and after games people would have a very quick drink and a bit of food and then all go off their separate ways."

Burnett fully understands those sentiments, which is why he has worked doubly hard at Blackfield this season to get a 'local' feel to the dressing room.

"I've tried so hard to get the right blend of players and we're a really tight-knit group," he said.

"Having a good dressing room and a feeling of togetherness is really, really important."

"The lads have to know when it's time to get

serious and we've got a really respectful and hard-working group here.

"But they also know how to enjoy themselves and let their hair down and (title favourites) Sholing have got that about them as well."

Signing Waterside lads like Craig Feeney, pictured left, from Totton & Eling and Neil Williams from Bemerton Heath Harlequins was top of Burnett's summer priority list.

"It's not rocket science," he said. "Neil lives about a mile down the road from our ground so it's really easy for him to get to training and to half our games this season. It's no wonder we're getting a bit extra out of him."

Folland Sports' Danny Bowers is another who wishes Kemp well for the future. Kemp himself admitted he was lacking his normal spark at Winchester, which came as no surprise to the Planemakers' boss.

"We were 2-0 up against them in the Hampshire Senior Cup and, if that had happened in his Christchurch days, Kempy would have been going berserk on the sidelines," he said.

"But that night he was just quietly crouched down looking on. He wasn't his normal self."



GLENN BURNETT



FLASH BACK:

Neil Hards, far left, soaks his celebrating players with champagne after Winchester City won the FA Vase in 2004. Hards is back at the club after replacing Graham Kemp, pictured below left.

all in the local vicinity and it means I can fit them around my work commitments.

"I run a small building firm with ex-Swindon, Cheltenham and Cirencester player Ray Baverstock doing extensions, loft conversions and so on."

"Managing at Cirencester became a long jaunt for me and it got too much what with running my own business and having a young family."

"But Winchester's a lot easier. It's 35-40 minutes max from Portsmouth and, with so many clubs like Fareham, Portchester and Alresford on the doorstep, it means I can get out and watch more games."

For anyone who knows Hards well, his eagerness to help out Winchester in their hour of need will have come as no surprise.

The 51-year-old is a deeply loyal

character who values his links with his old clubs.

He has often been on scouting missions for Cirencester and did current Centurians' boss Brian Hughes a favour by checking out FA Cup opponents Portchester ahead of September's second qualifying round tie.

"Hughes wanted me to have a look at Portchester, so I went along to watch them at Christchurch," he said. "I didn't want tickets left on the gate, I paid to go in because I appreciate these clubs have all got bills to pay and any contribution helps."

"Last season I sponsored Cirencester's game against Winchester (in the Southern League). It

puts a bit of money back into the club."

"I'm always happy to help out my old clubs and I'm glad to be able to help Winchester now."

"There's no financial recompense for me, I'm not in it for the money."

"I was asked by Dave (director of football Dave Malone) if I was prepared to help and I said 'yes'."

"I've worked with Dave before and we did okay as a working relationship."

"We had our ups and downs and some big differences of opinion, but there was always an underlying current of doing what was best for the club."

"Dave let me do what I wanted with regards to managing the side. He would go out and look at

players, which took the load off me, but if I didn't want someone, they wouldn't come in."

"All I concentrated on was football matters and making sure the players enjoyed it."

The word "enjoyment" appears frequently in Hards's footballing philosophy.

"That's what it's all about," he said. "Winning things and enjoying things comes hand in glove."

"The players don't have to like me."

"It's all about the football and all I ask of them is that they like the working environment and enjoy the way we try and play."

"In a group environment it's important everyone's together and united in what they do."

"Sholing are a tight-knit group who enjoy themselves and that's why they go out and steamroller teams every week."

Non-league News

Winch snap up Masters

WINCHESTER City this week confirmed Paul Masters as their new assistant manager.

The former Follands and New Milton boss will work side by side with manager Neil Hards at the helm of the Sydenhams Premier Division club.

Welcoming Masters to the Denplan City Ground, director of football Dave Malone said: "Paul was a very accomplished player, having once been a pro at Southampton as well as playing for the likes of Weymouth, Havant & Waterlooville and other non-League clubs."

"He has managerial experience in the Wessex League (with Follands and New Milton) and was part of the AFC Totton backroom staff when they played in the FA Vase final at Wembley."

"Paul and Hardsy played together some years back, so their coming together will hopefully be quickly established. We look forward to a very successful partnership."

Hards goes back a long way with former Southampton midfielder Masters, who featured in the same Saints reserve side as the likes of Jeff Kenna, Jason Dodd and Tommy Widdrington.

Looking forward to working with him again, Hards said: "I used to play with Paul at Havant and Waterlooville and he's a nice guy."

"He's local and he's been in and around the non-League game for quite a few years."

"He's ideal to come in and work with me."

Newport get Corbett

NEWPORT IOW has added Mark Corbett to their Sydenhams Premier title-chasing squad.

The ex-Alton Town and Sandhurst striker played in the Combined Counties League for Farnham Town last term.

"Mark has offered to help us out when needed, like he did last Saturday (in the 3-2 win at Downton)," Port boss Steve Brougham explained. "He played well and he's a player we may need during the course of the season."

Brougham, meanwhile, has heaped praise on the Islanders' chief string-puller Iain Seabrook.

The former Sholing midfielder was in majestic form this week as Port climbed back to the Wessex summit with back-to-back victories.

"Iain was involved in all three goals last Saturday and he got another against Verwood (Tuesday's 2-0 win). He's on top of his game," said Brougham.

"He's a player you need in the team. He's always liable to score a goal or create something."

Non-league Football

Non-league News

Town go on a great run

AT the time it seemed like a disaster. But losing 4-1 away at Havant & Waterlooville last month may well have proved the turning point in Basingstoke Town's Skril Conference South season.

Since that dark day at Westleigh Park, Town have clocked up three straight wins over Boreham Wood, Dorchester and Dover Athletic to arrest their September/early October slide and push up to fifth in the table.

"Losing 4-1 to Havant was a wake-up call," said manager Jason Bristow. "We cannot turn up and just expect to win games without working hard."

"The main thing we have been hammering home in training and before games is that work-rate is the most important thing."

"With the quality we have got, if we work as hard as any other team in this league, I would expect our quality to shine through."

Andrew Jenkinson and Matt Partridge scored a goal in each half to see off Dover 2-0 at the Camrose Ground last Saturday.

The game ended on a slightly sour note when Partridge and Dover's Barry Cogan were sent off following a melee.

Overall, though, it was a pleasing afternoon for Bristow as his side registered their third clean sheet in a row.

Having conceded 15 goals in their first ten league games, Town headed for Maidenhead today having gone almost five hours without conceding.

"After the Havant game we went back to basics and tried to make ourselves hard to beat," Bristow explained. "We look a lot more solid as a unit and getting three clean sheets is really pleasing. We have put ourselves in a good position."

Bridge tie for Romsey

ROMSEY Town's reward for knocking Folland Sports out of the Russell Cotes Cup is a home tie against lower league Stockbridge.

The Bypass Ground boys – now under the leadership of Carl Bennett – are scheduled to entertain the Sydenhams One outfit on Wednesday, November 20.

Russell Cotes Cup second round draw: Romsey Town v Stockbridge (Nov 20), Sholing v Newport IOW (Nov 20), New Milton Town v Christchurch (Nov 19), AFC Portchester v Pewsey Vale (Nov 19), Fareham Town v US Portsmouth (Nov 19), Gosport Borough v Totton & Eling (Nov 19), AFC Totton v Fleet Town (Dec 3), Farnborough v Bemerton Heath Harlequins (Nov 19).

Downton aim to fix leaky defence

WITH 53 league goals conceded, Downton went into today's match at Lymington Town blighted by the worst defensive record in the Sydenhams Premier Division.

Their problems were encapsulated this week in back-to-back 3-2 home defeats by Newport IOW and rock-bottom Romsey Town.

Last Saturday the Robins trailed 3-0 to goals by

Newport's Tom McInnes, Iain Seabrook and Tom Scovell before making a game of it either side of the break.

With half-time approaching Dan Telfer capitalised on a goalkeeping mistake to pull one back.

Then defender Josh Thomas – subject of a seven-day notice of approach from Winchester City – went up for a corner,

took on a defender and drilled home his second goal since returning to Wick Lane from Bemerton last month.

The equaliser just wouldn't come, however, leaving manager Jeff Softley, right, to lament his side's careless first-half display.

"We conceded three goals because of three terrible mistakes," he said.

"We are making too many

bad mistakes at the back and it has to change.

"We were all over them in the second half and were the better side by a mile, but you can't expect to win a game from 3-0 down."

It was a similar tale of woe for the Robins against Romsey on Tuesday. Goals by Martin Johnson and Telfer were scant consolation for their 12th league defeat of the season.



TREASURE HUNT

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

THEY say Magpies are attracted to shiny objects – and that's certainly the case for cup specialists Alresford Town.

Having lifted three pieces of silverware last season, the Magpies of Arlebury Park are desperate to keep hold of them – as they showed with Tuesday's excellent 2-0 win at Blackfield & Langley in the Sydenhams Wessex League Cup.

"Magpies collect silver, don't they? And we do not want to let this cup go," smiled co-manager Danny Robinson, after goals by Warren Bentley and Mike McEnery had booked Town their semi-final place.

With regular goalkeeper Jason Collins ricking his neck in a car accident, the Magpies handed a debut to reserve team No1 Jarid Hixon, signed from Fawley AFC.

It could have proved a baptism of fire for the young man but, with the Alresford back four of Luke Dempsey, Joe Wright, Stuart Mott and Lee Wood closing ranks, he had some solid protection in front of him.

Alresford opened the scoring on 28 minutes when Stuart Green released Warren Bentley through the inside left channel.

SWARMED

The Magpies marksman, pictured, outpaced his marker and fired his 101st Alresford goal under diving 'keeper Rory Anderson.

Blackfield swarmed forward after the break, winning a string of corners, but the visitors stood strong.

And with 84 minutes gone Alresford managed to give themselves breathing space when Steve Brown did well to control the ball on the halfway line and send Bentley scampering away down the right.

He took the ball to the bye-line and crossed low for Mike McEnery to a shoot over the 'keeper and in off the underside of the bar.

It completed yet another outstand-



ing cup result for Alresford who, in the last 12 months, have contested 16 ties in various knockout competitions and lost just once.

"It was a really good night for our club," smiled Robinson.

"The game was well contested, as it always is against Blackfield, but we played very well and deserved the win. On the night we were better than Blackfield."

With regards to former

Christchurch 'keeper Collins, Robinson explained: "He was involved in a shunt in Poole. He's okay."

"He arrived midway through the second half, but his neck's a bit stiff and he may be a doubt for the Brockenhurst game (at home today)."

"We signed Jarid Hixon from Fawley and he lives locally to Blackfield and answered our call."

Asker joins Jam Boys

EXPERIENCED midfielder Dave Asker has re-signed for newly-promoted Sydenhams Premier outfit Whitchurch United after a season away from Longmeadow.

Until recently the former Andover and Eastleigh player was player/assistant boss of Calor Southern One South & West outfit Thatcham Town, but he lost his job when manager Scott Tarr was sacked late last month.

Asker came off the bench last Saturday as Whitchurch extended their unbeaten run to nine games – six of them in the league – with a 3-0 Sydenhams Premier win over Christchurch.

Isaac Sedu,

Nic Turpin

and Curtis

Angell got

the goals as

the Jam

Boys gleaned

revenge for

their 3-1 defeat at

Priory at the start of the season.

Chuffed boss Jim Macey, who returned to the dugout after missing the previous game through illness, said afterwards: "I am proud of the boys as that was a tricky game today."

"It shows what a really good squad we have here."

Late on Christchurch were awarded a penalty, but United 'keeper Tom Hindmarsh saved well to preserve his clean sheet.

Big defender Adam Pearson returned after a month out and Macey said: "It was like he had never been away, he was so comfortable."

"I am trying to keep the squad happy."

"At the start of the season I said we needed 40 points to be safe and we have 27 already with plenty of big clubs below us."



Non-league Football

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

DANNY Bowers rates Sholing "massive favourites" to come through next Saturday's big FA Vase second round tie away to neighbours Folland Sports.

Dave Diaper's Boatmen – fresh down from the Southern League – have been installed as 25/1 joint fifth favourites to lift lower non-League's premier cup by bookmakers Bet Victor.

Follands, in contrast, are 200/1 outsiders, but all the time history shows the underdog can prevail. Planemakers boss Bowers will never abandon hope of springing an upset.

Going into today's match at Romsey Town, Follands had reeled off five straight wins in the Sydenhams Premier Division and confidence in the camp is booming.

"Sholing are obviously massive favourites but, at the end of the day, it's a game of football and some of the big boys have been known to fall by the wayside," said Bowers.

BIG OCCASION

"It's going to be tough, but it's a big occasion locally with the two clubs only about a mile-and-a-half apart and we're looking forward to it."

"Sholing have got four players – Ashley Jarvis, Lewis Fennemore, Nick Watts and Pete Castle who have played for me at Follands – and we've got Daniel Mason who will relish the prospect of playing against his old club."

Mason, younger brother of Boatmen duo Barry and Byron, switched from being a Boatman to a Planemaker during the summer in search of regular first-team football.

But after a promising start he has spent six weeks out with an ankle problem and was off the scene for so long that his own teammates thought he was no longer with the club.

"When Daniel walked into the dressing room recently (coach) Dave Lewis and another lad said: 'I

Folland ready for big Vase derby

BIG TEST: Folland boss Danny Bowers.



thought he'd left!' He's been out that long," smiled Bowers.

"But it's a big positive to have him back and it's a race against time now to get him fully fit for the Sholing game."

"Daniel left there because he wasn't playing regular football and, like all players, he'd love the chance to prove his old club wrong."

Follands' urgency to get Mason back in the action has been increased by the loss of Ryan Long to suspension.

The hard-working former Romsey

Town markman was sent off against his old club in the Russell Cotes Cup and was handed a three-match ban to go with a one-match suspension for five bookings.

"We tried to appeal against Ryan's sending-off but we can't do it without video evidence. Unfortunately we're not Man United, so Sky Sports weren't there that night!" said Bowers.

"But Mike Turvey's goal return is good, Alex Sheath came back last week after work commitments and, hopefully, as one door closes with

Ryan, another will open with Daniel."

With a healthy crowd expected at Follands Park, the Planemakers will take the opportunity to showcase their youth programme.

"We're in the process of setting up a football academy and we're going to have kids playing at half-time and a penalty shootout," Bowers explained. "The Follands academy is developing in the Bursledon, Netley and Hamble areas and it will be nice for the kids to come along and get a taste of local football."

Non-league News

Hill to speak

EASTLEIGH boss Richard Hill is the guest speaker at November's monthly meeting of the Eastleigh Referees' Society.

The event takes place this Monday (November 11, 7.30pm) at Chandler's Ford Central Club. All are welcome to attend.

High praise

POOLE Town may be out of the FA Cup but they have won a new admirer in former Brentford and Wimbledon striker Marcus Gayle.

Gayle was highly complimentary of the Dolphins after they had taken his Skril Conference South side Staines Town to a fourth qualifying round replay.

The 43-year-old, whose side were held 0-0 at Wheatsheaf Lane but won the Tatnam replay 1-0 to book a trip to Brentford today, said:

"Poole's pitch is one of the biggest we have ever come across."

"If they can use that to their advantage, then great. If they try to move the ball around and play to their strengths, I think they could do very well."

"Over the course of the two games they created a lot of opportunities, but it was the finishing which let them down."

"But you could not fault them for their effort, determination and tactics."

"They are a very friendly club and the supporters were excellent. I'd like to take the opportunity to wish them all the best for the rest of the season and, hopefully, we will see them again one day, maybe at the same level."

Conor signs

SYDENHAMS One promotion hopefuls New Milton Town have completed the signing of Conor McCarthy.

The central defender – son of former Winchester City chief, Paul – was a member of the Winchester squad that won the Wessex Premier title two seasons ago.

He had a brief spell with Brockenhurst last term and began this season with Romsey Town, making 13 Wessex appearances for the Bypass Ground club.

See David...

BOURNEMOUTH Poppies are hosting an evening with ex-England, Saints, AFC Bournemouth and Middlesbrough midfielder David Armstrong next Friday (November 15).

The 58-year-old will talk about his life and times in football before a question and answer session. Tickets, priced £10, are available from the Sydenhams Premier club or by calling 07796 231024.

Carl loving the challenge



ENJOYMENT: Carl Bennett.

ROMSEY Town boss Carl Bennett loves his new role at the Bypass Ground after taking charge last month and has faith he can turn the club's fortunes around.

After four games in charge Bennett's side is unbeaten in two Sydenhams Premier Division matches – after a 3-2 win over Downton on Tuesday and a 1-1 draw at Horndean on Saturday – but still remain rock bottom.

And the new man couldn't be happier in his new role at the Bypass Ground helm.

"I love it, I just thrive off being involved in football," he said. "There was a point when I realised everything will fall

back to me but I just love football and being part of a club, you just can't beat it."

"I knew what I was stepping into, so I had no second thoughts – I just wanted the job."

"It's just being around Romsey day-to-day, being part of the atmosphere on a match-day, the preparation that goes into it all."

"It is undoubtedly a stressful job – I've never managed in the Wessex before and it is a new experience, but it's one I aim to thrive off."

Bennett took charge after former boss Danny Barker departed following a run of one win in 14 games – with the

final nail in the coffin coming in a 3-0 defeat to fellow Wessex strugglers Bournemouth Poppies.

His side are still adrift, two points behind Poppies at the foot of the Wessex Premier, but the Bypass Ground boss is confident his side can still avoid the drop.

"We have to remain focussed, commitment is the key to our survival," he said.

"All the players must play for the badge, stick together and build a good team spirit."

"There is still a long, long way to go but if we can keep playing as we have done recently then I think we stay up."

Non-league Football

Non-league News

McKie joins neighbours

FORMER AFC Totton forward/winger John McKie has left Newport IOW to sign for Isle of Wight neighbours Cowes Sports.

McKie, who had a brief spell with Totton during Stuart Ritchie's tenure as boss, went straight into the Yachtsmen's side for their important Sydenhams One summit meeting with New Milton Town last Saturday.

But it proved an unsuccessful debut for the Cowes new boy as New Milton triumphed 2-1 at Westwood Park.

Aaron Scott opened the scoring for the Linnets on 13 minutes with a free-kick that eluded everyone on its way into the bottom corner of Ed Hatt's goal.

New Milton's top scorer Kabba Jack then conjured up a sublime chip from the left edge of the area to double the visitors' advantage before half-time.

Cowes hit back on 76 minutes when McKie's shot was pushed away by 'keeper Shane Murphy straight to Adam Sunsbury who fired home via a deflection.

But as Sunsbury went to retrieve the ball from Murphy in order to get the game restarted quickly, the New Milton 'keeper went down in a heap and Sunsbury was controversially sent off for violent conduct.

Blu is back

BLU Boam has returned to the Fareham Town fold from Sydenhams Premier rivals Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

The highly thought-of midfielder made just three Wessex starts and one substitute appearance for the Harlequins after moving to Western Way from AFC Portchester during the summer.

He had previously played for Fareham and Horndean. Boam was on the bench against his old club at Cams Alders on Tuesday, but it wasn't a good night for Matt Parr's men.

Fareham crashed out of the Sydenhams League Cup 3-0 to the Harlequins - Jack Eves and Kane O'Keefe (2) inflicting the damage.

Ian Chalk's Wiltshire outfit - on a run of seven straight league and cup wins - now travel to Sholing in the quarter-finals on November 26.

The Fareham victory capped a good week for Bemerton who had emerged 3-1 league winners at Fawley AFC last Saturday through O'Keefe and the irrepressible Joe Sanger (2).

Stokie runs

STOKIE the Dragon, Basingstoke Town's mascot, has signed up to run the 2014 London Marathon.

The giant blue dragon is hoping to complete the 26-mile course in aid of The Children's Trust, the UK's leading charity for children with brain injuries.

Stokie needs to raise a certain amount of money in sponsorship by January if he is to run. To sponsor him, visit www.justgiving.com/Stokie-The-Dragon or text STOK97 and the amount you wish to donate to 70070.

EASTLEIGH MEET HIGH FLIERS IN FA TROPHY

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

EASTLEIGH'S FA Trophy third qualifying round opponents Maidstone United have come a long way in the past 15 months.

The 2012/13 season was a memorable one for their boss Jay Saunders, who not only managed the first game at the club's new Gallagher Stadium, he also secured them promotion from the Ryman Division One South via the play-offs - and this season has led The Stones to the top of the Ryman Premier Division with ten wins and three draws in 14 games.

Small wonder then that Stones co-owner Terry Casey has described the former Gillingham, Gravesend & Northfleet and Lewes player as "a revelation."

Casey said: "Jay is such a strong character and he has the dressing room in his hand. The players all respect him and like him immensely. He's a man of high integrity and a talented young manager."

"He ticks all the boxes. He understands the game, he understands the tactics and he understands footballers. We're top of the league because of the quality and astuteness of Jay's signings."

One of those signings, 29-year-old goalkeeper Lee Worgan, made nearly 170 appearances for Tonbridge Angels, while Spitfires fans will be familiar with forward Frannie Collin, well known on the Kent scene from his time with Gillingham, Dover and Tonbridge.

On-loan Whitehawk right-back Richard Rose is also familiar to Spitfires boss Richard Hill from their time together at Gillingham where Rose was in the same youth team as Eastleigh defender Dean Beckwith.

Casey added: "Jay was determined to get Lee Worgan and Frannie Collin. He knew they would change the team and they have also helped existing players improve. It was a smart move bringing in (former Margate striker) Zac Attwood and (former Dover defender) Steve Watt has also made a big difference. He likes to play from the back and that's helped."

With Maidstone having come back from two down to draw 2-2 at league rivals Wealdstone last Saturday, Tuesday's Trophy replay looked to be heading for extra-time with the scoreline goalless at the Gallagher Stadium. But the Stones finally broke the deadlock in time added on when Attwood smashed home from close range to earn his side a home tie against Hill's Conference South high-fliers next Saturday (November 16).

After the old Football League club Maidstone United went into bankruptcy, the youth team Maidstone Invicta made the step into adult football in 1992 and progressed from the Kent County League Division 4 up the non-League pyramid before changing their name to Maidstone United in 1995.

In 2012 they moved into the Gallagher Stadium - the first English stadium to be purpose-built with a 3G synthetic pitch.

Hill, who was at Tuesday's replay, said: "You can see why they've done so well."

"They get 1,200 people in for home games, they never have a game called off (because of the 3G pitch) and they've got a 24/7 facility. Good luck to them."



RICHARD HILL



LEAGUE STAR: Danny Ings, right, playing for Burnley.

FROM Bournemouth to Burnley, from Dean Court to Potterne Park - for every Danny Ings there are thousands of Matt Oldrings.

When striker Ings and defender Oldring were offered apprenticeships by Cherries in 2008, both would have harboured hopes of making the grade, writes **NEIL PERRETT.**

However, while Ings may have gone on to achieve every schoolboy's dream after winning a contract, Oldring was left to deal with the bitter taste of rejection.

"Most of us had an inkling about what was coming," said Oldring, one of eight young players to have been shown the door by the club in 2010.

"You hear rumours and I half expected it. But nothing really prepares you for when the news is broken. I was devastated when I was told."

"Fair play to Ingsy because he has got everything he deserved. It is always great to see someone go all the way. It doesn't make up for it but it has helped."

While Ings went on to earn a £1million move to Burnley, Oldring was left to pick up the pieces and is currently playing for Wessex Premier outfit Verwood Town.

Having joined Cherries as an 11-year-old following 12 months at Southampton, a circuitous route has seen

Ings has the star quality

Bournemouth-born Oldring find his way back to Dorset.

Oldring, who turned out for BSC Grange in the Bournemouth Youth League, said: "After being released by Bournemouth, I went to Weymouth. I was there for a few months before a new manager came in and he didn't want me. I finished the season playing for Hamworthy United."

"The following season I joined AFC Totton in the Southern Premier League. We reached the second round of the FA Cup and were on the telly against Bristol Rovers. Although we lost, it was a great day."

"I then got approached by a team in Australia and went over there for 12 months. I played for Whitsunday Miners in what was then called the Queensland State League."

"It was a great experience. It was a different way of life and a different way of football. It was very professionally run

and we even used to fly to games. I was there for a year and we lost the grand final on penalties in my last game."

"I came back and re-signed for AFC Totton. But I wasn't getting regular football and Andy Darnton contacted me to ask if I wanted to go to Verwood. I dual registered with them for the second half of last season and really enjoyed it. They asked me to sign again this season and I have been there ever since."

Oldring divides his time between playing for the Potters, studying for a degree in sports coaching and development at Yeovil University Centre and working part-time in the Tap & Railway pub in West Moors as a barman and chef.

And while he hopes his studies will help him map out a new career path, Oldring's immediate concern is with trying to ensure Verwood can see off his former club Hamworthy United at Potterne Park tomorrow.

MORE NON-LEAGUE ON PAGE 45

Non-league Football

Turning point?



STEVE Riley is hoping this Tuesday's (November 12, 7.45) visit of Frome Town will be the evening when things finally fall into place for his improving, young AFC Totton side.

Despite stringing together three highly promising performances against Arlesey, Truro and Weymouth in the Calor

Premier Division, the third-to-bottom Stags banked just one point from nine when it should have been so much more.

Tuesday's 1-0 home defeat by Weymouth was a case in point. By Terras boss Brendon King's own admission "Totton worked their socks off and made life difficult for us."

But even though the Stags bossed large periods of the game, they either lacked finishing finesse or were frustrated by some smart goalkeeping from veteran former Eastleigh stopper Jason Matthews.

"In our last three games the lads have been phenomenal, but we haven't had the points return we deserve," reflected Riley.

CHANCES: Luke Roberts looked a danger for Totton. Right: Steve Riley.

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

"We were on the front foot for the last 15 minutes of the first half against Weymouth and we dominated the second half, but we just couldn't get that break in the final third.

"The boys have done really well and they should have got something out of the game. It's disappointing not to get any points on the board.

"But Weymouth are a good side and the biggest thing for me is that we competed.

"We were a lot more solid and, apart from the goal and a free-kick which Joe McCormack's turned onto the bar, we limited them to a few half-chances."

It was Scott Walker's effort which was diverted onto the woodwork on 25 minutes, but McCormack was beaten four minutes later.

Mark Ford crossed for ex-Salisbury City marksman Ben Joyce to turn the ball home from the edge of the area.

The Stags almost levelled when Luke

Roberts beat his man to leave himself one-on-one with Matthews, but he couldn't find the finish to match his

promising approach work.

Roberts and Portsmouth loanee George Branford had chances for Totton at the start of the second half, but they had McCormack to thank again on 59 minutes when he kept out Ashley Wells's strike.

Stewart Yetton then fired wide for the Terras, but the Stags remained resolute as a tight game entered its closing stages.

Weymouth sub Matt Groves shot wide and Wells was denied by another smart McCormack save before Matthews had to sprint off his line to make a brave stop at the feet of Totton's Taylor Edwards.

Totton tossed in a late free-kick in the hope of forcing a dramatic leveller but, once again, Matthews made a positive intervention as the Terras held on for victory.

Looking forward to Tuesday's visit of Frome, Riley said: "Collectively we've got to try and get goals when we have periods of domination.

"There's confidence in the camp and if we could just get that win, we could start climbing the table.

"Truro have done it. They were down among the bottom sides not long ago and now they've climbed into mid-table."

Although Totton's record of just two wins and a draw from 13 games does not make pleasant reading, the results tell only half the story.

"If we were getting smashed six and seven-nil every week I'd be worrying, but we're not, we're playing well and there's confidence in the camp," said Riley.

"I've got a young bunch of lads who are not getting paid, but their enthusiasm is infectious."

New into the Stags' camp is wide/frontman James Jennings, signed on dual registration forms from Eastleigh.

Weymouth's win took them to 12th place, but manager King is far from happy with his team.

"It's frustrating because we are just not clicking at the moment. I still don't know what our best side is," he said.

"We are looking for a bit of consistency from the lads but, for whatever reason, we are not quite getting it.

"Ben Joyce was quality against Totton and (ex-Stags midfielder) Dave Allen played well, but we need all 11 at it, not just a few."

Non-league News

Confidence is sky high

DANGEROUS Dan Fitchett continues to flourish in the Skril Conference Premier and insists his "sky-high confidence" has been a crucial factor in his 2013/14 goal spree.

The Salisbury City top scorer, 22, is now on seven goals for the season after scoring one in each half in the Whites' televised 4-1 Halloween thrashing of Hereford United.

Fitchett said: "We are forming a great home record at the moment. And with the squad of players we have this season, I think we can do something special as we are a real threat across the pitch.

"My confidence is sky high at the minute and the boss (Mike Harris) has given me a real boost as he always says go and express yourself up front.

"I'm in the box a lot more this season and a lot more chances are coming my way."

Fitchett and Salisbury teammates Angus MacDonald and Elliott Frear have been named in England C manager Paul Fairclough's 18-man squad to face the Czech Republic's under-21s later this month.

The match, to be played at Woking's Kingfield Stadium on Tuesday, November 19 (6pm), is part of England's preparation for their first International Challenge Trophy fixture against Slovakia next May.

Pyatt won't be giving in

JOHN Pyatt has refused to admit defeat in Bashley's Calor Southern Premier Division survival bid – despite Tuesday's 10-0 hammering at Hemel Hempstead Town.

The winless New Forest club suffered their tenth successive league loss – and an unwanted Southern League club record – at the hands of the rampant Hertfordshire promotion chasers who made it 49 goals scored in just 13 league outings.

Bash were 6-0 down inside 34 minutes and had no answer as five-goal Ben Mackey and hat-trick man Dave Pearce ran riot.

Oliver Hawkins also netted for the Tudors while Bashley's ex-Sholing centre-back Dave Marden, one of three recent recruits from Sydenhams Premier neighbours Brockenhurst, scored an own goal.

Joint boss Pyatt – another to have switched ranks from Brockenhurst recently – admits things are difficult at Bash right now, but he is not giving up hope.

"We've got to remain positive. We are a very young side," he insisted.

"Bashley have had a massive wage cut and a lot of key players have left, but we can't give up.

"We have to put it to bed and go on from there. We have got to look to stay up. It is not out of reach.

Although Tuesday's was a league record defeat, it wasn't a club record. Bashley lost 20-2 against Air Speed during their Bournemouth League days in 1957.

Totton fight back against MND

AFC TOTTON held a bucket collection on Tuesday for Football v MND.

Mike Gulliver, a Stags goalkeeper during the 1980s, recently died from the incurable and debilitating Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and Totton have been praised for their quick response to a request to raise money for the 'Football v MND' campaign launched by former Altrincham player Mark Maddox.

Writing to *The Pink*, Mike's son-in-law Chris Maple explained: "My father-in-law Mike Gulliver recently died

from the disease.

"I contacted AFC Totton to ask whether, given his links to the club, they would get involved with the campaign.

"Within a couple of days, not only had they agreed to support this, but information was published on their website.

"At Tuesday's game against Weymouth they included a poster to raise awareness and kindly agreed to allow for a bucket collection to raise some money for MND (Motor Neurone Disease Association).

"This kind support is very much appreciated

by our family and MND.

"Totton's support of the campaign has been recognised on social media by MND and by Mark Maddox himself."

Mike Gulliver, affectionately known as Gully, was diagnosed with MND in November 2012 and sadly passed away in October this year, aged 60.

A resident of Calmore, Totton, he also played for several other local clubs including BAT, Downton and Bemerton Heath Harlequins, for whom he was still turning out in his 40s.

His son-in-law Chris, another former non-

League player with Bemerton and Downton, recently took part in the Great South Run in Mike's memory, raising money for MND.

Further information on the campaign can be found at <http://www.mndassociation.org/news-and-events/Football-v-MND>

You can make a donation to MND by sponsoring Chris for his Great South Run efforts at justgiving.com/chrismaple-GSR

Alternatively text TGSRT7 £ to 70070 (just insert an amount, e.g. TGSRT7 £5).

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE NEWS

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

MICHAEL CARBERRY'S ONE-DAY CENTURIES FOR HAMPSHIRE

May 2009: Carberry scores his maiden limited overs century against Ireland in a 50-over FP Trophy tie at The Ageas Bowl.

He smotes 11 fours and three sixes in a 124-ball 121 not out.

Carberry, batting a No 4, shares a huge unbroken third wicket stand of 260 with Sean Ervine, who blasts 167 not out.

May 2010: Carberry collects his maiden 40-over century as Hampshire romp to a CB40 success against Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

He smashes 16 fours and three sixes in hitting 103 off only 70 balls, sharing a second wicket stand of 167 with Jimmy Adams (131) as Hampshire rattle up 341-6.

May 2012: Taunton witnesses another Carberry 40-over century.

Asked to chase Somerset's 212-9 total, Carberry hits 103 off just 83 balls with 14 fours and a six in Hampshire's nine wicket stroll in under 29 overs.

June 2012: Carberry smotes an unbeaten 148 off 125 balls as Hampshire beat Scotland in the CB40 competition at The Ageas Bowl.



TON-DERFUL: Carberry reaches three figures against Ireland in May 2009.

He reaches three figures off 96 balls, and during his innings smacks 20 fours and three sixes.

May 2013: Carberry lashes a career best 150 not out as Hampshire thrash Lancashire in a Yorkshire Bank 40 tie at The Ageas Bowl.

He reaches his ton off just 77 balls, and in all hits 18 fours and five sixes in one of the most remarkable one-day hundreds seen at the venue.

T20 centuries

August 2013: Carberry completes a maiden t20 century against the same county he had hammered 150 not out against a few months earlier.

In a thrilling quarter-final tie at The Ageas Bowl, he reaches three figures off 66 balls with 11 fours and three sixes.

Hampshire post a daunting 202-3 total, yet end up winning by just a solitary run.

CARBBS' TON-DERFUL

HAMPSHIRE star Michael Carberry has put himself in the box seat for an Ashes debut later this month.

The Ageas Bowl batsman scored an unbeaten 153 in a triple century opening stand with Alastair Cook against Australia A in Hobart this week.

Hampshire supporters, of course, have got used to Carberry scoring centuries since his arrival ahead of the start of the 2006 county season.

Here, the *Sports Pink* looks back at all Carberry's first class tons for the Royals ...

May 2006: Carberry scores his first Hampshire century in only his fourth Championship outing for the county. He hits 102 in a 193-run win at Edgbaston, reaching three figures off 168 balls.

It is only his second Championship hundred, with his previous coming for Kent in April 2004.

August 2006: Carberry scores his second first class hundred for Hampshire at Lord's in a drawn Championship encounter with Middlesex. Though known for his quick scoring, his 104 shows off his patience – his century comes off 226 balls in more than four and a half hours.

July 2007: Carberry smotes a career best 192 not out as Hampshire successfully chase 331 to beat Warwickshire at The Ageas Bowl.

Hampshire slip to 111-3 before Carberry – whose previous highest score was 112 for Kent three years earlier – adds 117 for the fourth wicket with Chris Benham (40).

Carberry and Nic Pothas (38no) then put on an unbroken 86 for the sixth wicket.

Carberry's 281-ball effort includes 24 fours and a six.

August 2007: Carberry smacks 116, with 18 fours, as Hampshire rattle up 455-9 declared against Worcestershire at The Ageas Bowl.

After the visitors are routed for 86 in reply, Shane Warne doesn't enforce the follow on and Carberry makes a two-ball duck second time around.

Warne and James Bruce share eight second innings wickets as Worcestershire are crushed by 285 runs.

September 2007: Carberry compiles two more Championship centuries against Worcestershire as the hosts are thrashed again, this time by 294 runs at New Road.

Carberry's first innings 127 comes off 202 balls, while his second innings 120 takes just 135 deliveries.

In both innings he shares a cen-

ALL SMILES:

Michael Carberry celebrates his century against Australia A



SALUTE:

Michael Carberry after hitting a CB40 ton against Scotland last year.



QUICK-FIRE: Michael Carberry celebrates his t20 ton against Lancashire this season.

tury opening stand with Michael Brown – 111 and 199.

September 2007: Carberry's great late season form continues with an unbeaten 113 off 167 balls against Yorkshire in a rain-ruined draw at Headingley.

During the innings, Carberry passes 1,000 Championship runs in

a season for the first time.

July 2009: Carberry scores 123 out of a Hampshire total of 264 at Taunton. Asked to follow on by Somerset, Carberry hits 52 as Hampshire eventually claim a draw.

July 2009: In his next Champion-

ship outing a few days after the Somerset game had finished, Carberry hits 112 off 168 balls against

CALL CRICKET WRITER SIMON WALTER ON 023 804

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

IT'S TIME AT HANTS



RIGHT: Michael Carberry and Neil McKenzie after their stand of 523 in 2011.

TOTAL 582		WKTS 2	
BATSMAN	15	CARBERRY	287
BATSMAN	27	MCKENZIE	237
BOWLED		REMAINING	
OVERS	11	27	OVER RATE
BOWLERS	3	29	D/L
BOWLER	11	4	27
OVERS	18	19	15
LAST MAN	29	CT20	59
1st INNS	532	2nd INNS	3
PTS	3		6



TEST CASE: Michael Carberry sweeps during his century against Australia A this week.

Sussex at Arundel.

July 2009: Carberry's great month continues when he compiles his first ever double century. Replying to Warwickshire's 484-7 total – Jonathan Trott hitting an undefeated

184 – Carberry smacks 204 off 270 balls with 28 fours and a six.

August 2009: Carberry passes 1,000 Championship runs for the season in compiling an unbeaten 136 on August 9 in a drawn encounter against Lancashire at The Ageas Bowl.

April 2010: Just a few weeks after

making his England Test debut in Bangladesh, Carberry returns to English soil to hit 164 for Hampshire in a first class game against Oxford University at The Parks. He shares a 221-run second wicket stand with Neil McKenzie (141no).

April 2010: Carberry hits 113 dur-

ing Hampshire's five wicket loss against Durham at The Riverside.

May 2010: Carberry makes 132 off 236 balls against Nottinghamshire, but Hampshire suffer another five-wicket setback at The Ageas Bowl.

July 2010: No doubt one of the sweetest centuries of Carberry's Hampshire career as he hits 158 against former employers Kent in an innings win at The Ageas Bowl.

August 2010: Carberry makes two centuries in a Championship game for the second time in his Hampshire career.

Playing against champions-elect Durham at May's Bounty in Basingstoke, he scores 162 in the first innings and 107 in the second innings. His first ton comes off 160 balls, and his second takes 164 deliveries.

August 2011: Carberry rewrites the record books in sensational fashion alongside Neil McKenzie against Yorkshire at The Ageas Bowl.

The pair share a stand of 523 – the highest third wicket partnership in English Championship history.

Carberry compiles his first ever triple century – 300 not out – off 427 balls in 512 minutes with 43 fours and two sixes.

His first century comes off 155 balls, his second off 163, and his third off just 109 deliveries.

McKenzie's contribution is a career best 237.

September 2011: Carberry shares another huge stand, this time with captain Jimmy Adams.

After Liam Dawson goes for a third ball duck, Carberry comes in at No 3 and adds 373 with Adams for the second wicket against Somerset at Taunton.

While Adams hits 207, Carberry makes 182 off 313 balls with 33 fours and a six as Hampshire rattle up 627-9 declared, Sean Ervine falling just two short of a century.

September 2011: Carberry's late season form goes on with 111 off 168 balls in the second innings of a drawn Ageas Bowl contest with Warwickshire.

With Hampshire having been asked to follow on, Carberry puts on 182 for the fourth wicket with Neil McKenzie (115no) to ensure the draw.

April 2013: Carberry ends a year and half wait for a first class ton with 118 off 125 balls in a victory over Loughborough University at The Ageas Bowl.

July 2013: Carberry's only Championship century of the 2013 season was the 154 made against former county Kent at Canterbury. His knock came off 295 balls and contained 17 fours and three sixes.

Did You Know?

MICHAEL CARBERRY'S FIRST CLASS RECORD

Surrey	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2001	6	10	0	311	84	31.10	0	1
2002	2	4	1	223	153*	74.33	1	0
Kent	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2003	14	24	1	824	137	35.82	1	6
2004	12	19	4	639	112	42.60	2	4
2005	1	2	0	47	47	23.50	0	0
Hampshire	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2006	15	28	2	938	104	36.07	2	5
2007	13	24	3	1067	192*	50.80	5	3
2008	16	29	3	815	108	31.34	1	4
2009	12	21	3	1251	204	69.50	4	8
2010	16	28	1	1385	164	51.29	6	4
2011	9	15	1	793	300*	56.64	3	1
2012	12	22	3	572	84*	30.10	0	4
2013	13	19	0	889	154	46.78	2	6

MICHAEL CARBERRY'S LIST A RECORD (in England only)

Surrey Cricket Board	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
1999	2	2	0	23	19	11.50	0	0
Surrey	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2001	5	5	0	33	20	6.60	0	0
2002	4	4	1	35	19	11.66	0	0
Kent	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2003	8	7	0	145	79	20.71	0	1
2004	15	15	0	360	76	24.00	0	3
2005	12	10	2	204	63	25.50	0	2
Hampshire	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2006	15	15	0	541	88	36.06	0	6
2007	14	14	3	345	75*	31.36	0	2
2008	13	13	1	394	67	32.83	0	5
2009	12	11	3	431	121*	53.87	1	1
2010	11	11	1	346	103	34.60	1	1
2011	5	4	0	29	22	7.25	0	0
2012	9	8	2	522	148*	87.00	2	4
2013	17	17	1	706	150*	44.12	2	4
In Scotland	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2012	1	1	0	76	76	76.00	0	1
2013	1	1	0	45	45	45.00	0	0

MICHAEL CARBERRY'S t20 RECORD (in England only)

Kent	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2003	5	4	1	29	10	9.66	0	0
2004	5	5	1	15	10*	3.75	0	0
2005	7	6	3	242	59*	80.66	0	2
Hampshire	M	Ins	NO	Rns	HS	Ave	100	50
2006	8	8	0	222	90	27.75	0	2
2007	7	6	2	79	23	19.75	0	0
2008	10	10	1	334	58	37.11	0	4
2009	11	10	0	307	62	30.70	0	2
2010	12	11	1	205	41	20.50	0	0
2012	5	5	0	83	33	16.60	0	0
2013	12	11	2	502	100*	55.77	1	4

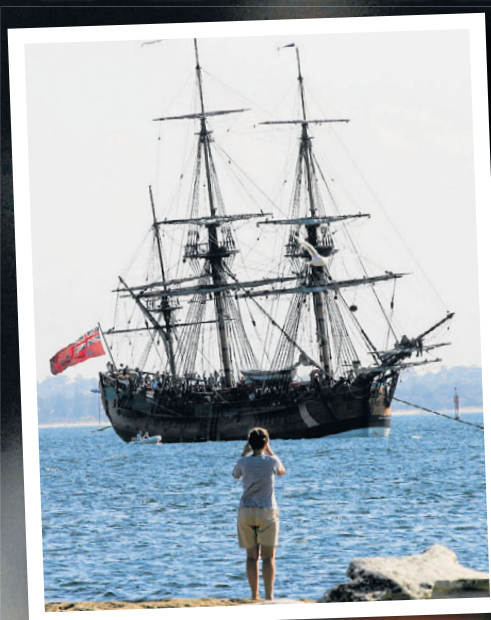
THE ASHES 2013-14



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WALK ON WILD SIDE

ENGLAND batsman Ian Bell has backed Stuart Broad to overcome any abuse he receives from Australian fans and press.

Broad can expect a hostile reception following his decision not to walk in the first Ashes Test in July, having been given not out despite being caught by Michael Clarke at first slip.

It led to accusations of cheating from Australia coach Darren Lehmann, but Bell said: "I think we're all going to get a little bit of stick over here. As an Englishman you're not going to get too much sympathy, but I don't think Stuart's too worried about any of that. We have to move forward."

DROP DRS – FREDDIE

FORMER England captain Andrew Flintoff has called for the controversial decision review system to be scrapped.

DRS was a hot topic during the summer, with the ICC forced to hold an emergency meeting with players from both teams.

But Flintoff said: "It doesn't need DRS – let the umpires make the decisions. I think it's one of the few games left where the umpire's decision is final. Like it or lump it, he'll stick his finger up or not and you've got to get on with it. I don't think it's needed, just let the umpire do it."

ONE-DAY SCHEDULE

ENGLAND'S work Down Under will still not be done when the dust settles on the Ashes series.

With some changes to the squad, they will then embark on eight more meetings with the Aussies in shorter forms of the game – a five-match one-day series followed by three games of Twenty20 which will culminate at Stadium Australia, the 2000 Olympics venue.

ONE-DAY SERIES

Sun, Jan 12: Melbourne

Fri, Jan 17: Brisbane

Sun, Jan 19: Sydney

Fri, Jan 24: Perth

Sun, Jan 26: Adelaide

TWENTY20 SERIES

Wed, Jan 29: Hobart

Fri, Jan 31: Melbourne

Sun, Feb 2: Sydney

Cook's recipe for success

HOW MASTER BATSMAN SHOULDERS TWIN BURDENS

By David Clough

ON his last tour to Australia, Alastair Cook arrived with a point to prove and doubters to silence.

He did so by scoring 766 runs, more in an Ashes series than any Englishman bar Wally Hammond 82 years earlier.

En route, Cook exceeded by 100 runs an innings his previously paltry average against Australia, and most importantly set England's course for their first series win Down Under since 1986-87.

As omens go, that will do very nicely for the England captain as he seeks to lead his country to a fourth straight Ashes victory and second in succession on Australian soil.

Cook's relative struggles against Australia with the bat during the summer present a less obviously encouraging portent. With context, however, they could also point to another prolific winter.

By making only 277 runs at 27.77 at the top of the order in England's 3-0 series win, Cook has endured a three-figure regression – almost exactly to the decimal point – back to his pre-2010-11 Ashes record.

Once again, therefore, he will embark for Australia needing to up his game.

He has the record to prove he can do just that, of course, as England's most prolific Test centurion and, at the age of 28, with time to add plenty more yet.

Three years ago, Cook's statement of intent came with a defiant and unbeaten 235 as England unexpectedly but emphatically saved the first Test in Brisbane. That came without the

pressures of leadership, as he and predecessor Andrew Strauss put on 188 for the first wicket in the second innings.

Cook's challenge this winter, like Strauss' then, will come on two fronts. He must look after his own game, a critical component at the top of the order with a rookie partner in Joe Root, and everyone else's – not to mention the myriad other tactical, pastoral and public requirements of a Test captain.

There are precedents for Cook here too, because he has already proved, on his first tour in charge 12 months ago, that he can lead from the front as his team make history. That is exactly

what happened in India last year, when England won a Test series there for the first time since 1984-85.

Cook has since nonetheless acknowledged that the past 12 months have seen the steepest of learning curves, and captaincy duties inevitably take their toll.

He said: "You get tested every single day, and you don't quite know where you'll be tested from. Eventually that does wear at you. It's how you manage that, and how

you put in place things that can help you."

Cook was long identified as Strauss' successor, and if his ascent came a little earlier than many imagined – when his fellow opener retired after a vexed 2012 summer – those who sensed his suitability all along have been vindicated.

As a batsman, he is nothing if not resourceful. There is often little memorable about a successful Cook innings apart from its longevity, and the indications are that his leadership style is similarly undemonstrative.

Some Australians – Shane Warne characteristically to the fore – have already been in a hurry to point out Cook's perceived weaknesses.

He is no instinctive tactician, we were told shortly before Australia folded to defeat in Durham as England went 3-0 ahead with one to play.

By his own admission, Cook does not fit the charismatic cliché of a 'Captain Fantastic'. He makes his runs, and his points, carefully and effectively. "I am certainly not a shouter, not a screamer," he said. "As a captain, Strauss was an outstanding bloke, and it's been quite hard to follow in his footsteps, because of how respected he was."

Cook has his fair share of respect already, if the public comments of his team-mates are a reliable guide. If his runs help win the Ashes again this winter, he will deserve even more.



Alastair Cook gets his hands on the famous Ashes urn at The Oval in August

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JONATHAN AGNEW

EXCLUSIVE VERDICT FROM THE BBC CRICKET CORRESPONDENT AND FORMER ENGLAND BOWLER

ENGLAND'S chances of retaining the urn could all hinge on that first Test at Brisbane. It's going to be fascinating.

The vast bowl of the Gabba is a hostile environment. It will be full of Australians desperate for their side to bounce back, and England haven't won there since Mike Gatting's team in 1986.

If Australia make inroads in that first match, it's game on. Anything can happen.

England are clearly the better side, but they already have the press against them – and a lot of that is their own fault. They brought it on themselves during the summer and it's really going to kick off.

They played a type of cricket I was disappointed to watch. I don't like seeing cricket played to win at all costs, with time-wasting and cynical play. There's much more to the game than that.

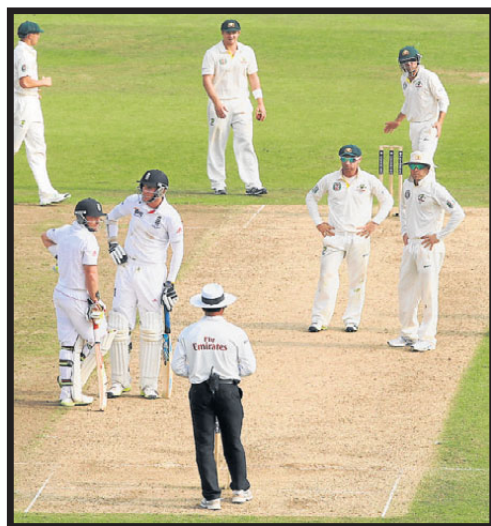
Matt Prior said 'we haven't got the credit we deserve' and that the side didn't feel loved. But then they go and pee on The Oval pitch at the end of the fifth Test. It was a statement about the team at that moment.

They will probably hate me saying that, but I've never seen a cricket team do that before, and it does rather illustrate the mindset they were in.

I know people will say it was 3-0 in the summer, and that it wasn't close, but actually there were moments for Australia. In every game except for Lord's, they could have won.

If I were Australia, I would prepare greener pitches, with

Gabba opener is key to Ashes



Stuart Broad will know he cannot expect anything in return after his decision not to walk at Trent Bridge

plenty of seam movement as that's their best chance of winning. The flatter pitch, the more it suits England.

I remember seeing Mitchell Johnson bowl in the Champions Trophy and saying to Shane Warne that he needs to be in the Test team, because he looked transformed. Warne sort of

laughed and said we don't need him!

But they do need him now. He's bowling aggressively at 90mph-plus but, more importantly, he's bowling straight. He'll have all his mob behind him instead of ours against him, too, unlike Stuart Broad, who knew what the consequences of not

walking after being caught at Trent Bridge would be. If you're going to play cricket like that, people will play against you like that. If that's the line you are making as a sportsman, fine, but just don't expect anything in return! But the Stuart Broad I know, I think he'll rise to the occasion as he has done in

the past when under pressure. Perhaps he'll even revel in the notoriety.

If Mitchell is joined by a fit-again Ryan Harris, with Peter Siddle running in all day, Australia will be a force to be reckoned with. They're lacking a match-winning spinner, but they might not necessarily need that.

They worked out how to bowl to England in the summer. They figured Jonathan Trott and Joe Root out, although Root's back-foot style may be more suited to Australia's harder pitches.

Ian Bell is the only batsman whose confidence must be sky-high. It was overdue, but he had the summer of his life and matured as a Test player with those three match-saving 100s under difficult circumstances.

I don't necessarily see Australia's batting improving, though, so if England's batting fires, Australia will easily be outscored.

As for England's attack, I tend not to worry about the height and size of bowlers, but if James Anderson gets injured, it is going to be a very samey-looking attack.

My one question mark is Chris Tremlett. I didn't see him bowl towards the back end of last summer, but those who did said he has bowled an awful lot better.

Bringing in him and Boyd Rankin is a bit of a punt. Graham Onions could have taken one of those places and you'd feel England would have all bases covered.

The series hinges an awful lot on that first Test. If the Aussies come out like I expect them to, and have a bit of luck, it will be a tough call. But if England get through that first game, I think they'll win, although you would expect them to lose in Perth.

I predict England to prevail 3-1, but I just hope we see a very competitive, hard-fought but respectful series.

Jonathan Agnew was talking to Lenny Miller

TMS DOWN UNDER – AND MRS AGGERS TOO

A TOUR in Australia is a long time away, but my wife is coming out with me, which is just brilliant, we've never done that before.

We are taking the train down from Darwin to Adelaide, which takes three-and-a-half days. We had a thought of inviting Geoffrey Boycott, but I thought that might be a bit too much to ask, being trapped on a train with Geoffrey!

As for working on Test Match Special, I love the idea of millions of people at home listening during the night. I used to be one of those dreaming of the Gabba in a faraway land, so now me saying hello to everyone on this fantastic programme, is just lovely.

I'll be joined by the likes of Boycott, Michael Vaughan, Glenn McGrath and Henry Blofeld, so that authentic TMS sound should be as rich as ever!

Join Aggers and the Test Match Special team as they deliver ball-by-ball Ashes commentary on BBC 5 live sports extra and the BBC iPlayer radio app.



ASHES FOCUS Test dates and venues

FIRST TEST, BRISBANE November 21-25

England have not won a Test at the Gabba since 1986, but amassed 517 for one in their second innings there three years ago, Alastair Cook unbeaten on 235 and Jonathan Trott and Andrew Strauss also scoring centuries.

Australia have an excellent record against England in Tests in the Queensland capital, though, having won four of the past six, with two draws.



SECOND TEST, ADELAIDE December 5-9

England drew first blood in the 2010-11 series at the Adelaide Oval when Kevin Pietersen laid the foundations for victory by an innings and 71 runs. His 227 is the highest score by an Englishman at the ground.

Australia have won three of the past four matches in Adelaide, where conditions will change thanks to a drop-in pitch to be used after recent refurbishments.



THIRD TEST, PERTH December 13-17

England will be hoping to end a disastrous record at the WACA, having lost on each of their past six visits, all by good margins.

The wicket is traditionally regarded as one of the quickest and bounciest in the world, and the famous 'Fremantle Doctor' – an afternoon sea breeze which regularly blows across the ground – will also provide some help for swing bowlers.



FOURTH TEST, MELBOURNE December 26-30

Home of the Boxing Day Test, the Melbourne Cricket Ground – or simply the 'G' as it is known to locals – holds a special place in the hearts of fans the world over.

Despite a bumper capacity crowd of more than 100,000 enthusiastic Aussies, England have not struggled there in recent times as they have at Brisbane or Perth, with four wins and as many defeats in the past eight Tests.



FIFTH TEST, SYDNEY January 3-7

England completed their humiliation of Australia three years ago at the Sydney Cricket Ground with another innings win, Cook's 189 taking him to an incredible 766 runs in the series.

Conversely, in 2007, Australia's 10-wicket triumph there ensured a 5-0 whitewash. That is just one of the home side's two victories over England in seven attempts, the tourists also winning twice.



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PLAYER-BY-PLAYER GUIDE TO ALL THE STARS READY FOR ACTION

ENGLAND

**ALASTAIR COOK**

(Captain, Age 28, Tests 97)

His prolific form underpinned England's 2010-11 series victory, but has deserted him of late. In relative terms – there has still been a Test century and three 50s this summer – captain Cook will return to Australia with a little to prove at the top of the order.

**TIM BRESNAN**

(Age 28, Tests 21)

Not officially a member of the full touring party because of ongoing rehabilitation work on a stress fracture, he has nevertheless travelled with the squad and, fitness permitting, the burly Yorkshireman will challenge for a place in the Test side in due course.

**MATT PRIOR**

(Wkt, Age 31, Tests 72)

Has been short of runs and eventually perhaps confidence as well since being named England's player of the year at the start of the summer. Prior remains significantly in credit behind and in front of the stumps, but a revival of his best form in both disciplines is required.

**JAMES ANDERSON**

(Age 31, Tests 87)

The undisputed leader of England's attack confounded the predictions of many that he would struggle to export his swing-and-seam skills effectively Down Under last time. There are few these days who would doubt Anderson's standing as a world-class bowler.

**STUART BROAD**

(Age 27, Tests 62)

England's mercurial match-winner with the ball, he was irresistible in the second innings at Chester-le-Street, where England clinched the Ashes outright. Returns to Australia with extra motivation after a series-ending injury in Adelaide last time round.

**BOYD RANKIN**

(Age 29, Tests 0)

The Irishman is perhaps the tallest of his adopted country's quartet of seam-bowling giants, and convinced many during this summer's one-day series that he can keep the Australians hopping all winter if he gets the chance to make a belated entry into the Test arena.

**GARY BALLANCE**

(Age 23, Tests 0)

England's management believe Yorkshire's left-handed middle-order batsman has the technique to thrive in Australia. His only international experience to date brought a second-ball duck in a one-day game against Ireland in Dublin.

**MICHAEL CARBERRY**

(Age 32, Tests 1)

The journeyman opener did enough in the summer's one-day series to get the nod ahead of Nick Compton as Root and Cook's deputy at the top of the order. His prospects of adding to his solitary Test, three years ago in Bangladesh, depend on Root's fortunes and the captain's well-being.

**JOE ROOT**

(Age 22, Tests 11)

Root was set a tough challenge to begin his career as an England opener in back-to-back Ashes series. After the first, despite one big hundred and then a half-century in the last Test, the jury is out on how the Yorkshire youngster may fare in the rematch.

**JONNY BAIRSTOW**

(Wkt, Age 23, Tests 12)

The Yorkshireman must be feeling the pressure from current one-day keeper Jos Buttler by now. After Matt Prior's lacklustre summer, opportunities may not be as far away as they once seemed for the man who is currently England's second-choice wicketkeeper.

**STEVEN FINN**

(Age 24, Tests 23)

His last Test match over, at Trent Bridge in July, saw him taken out of the attack as the Aussies threatened an unlikely victory and then dropped for the remainder of the Ashes. Out-bowled by Rankin in the one-day series, he then missed the deciding match with a side strain.

**BEN STOKES**

(Age 22, Tests 0)

Uncapped at Test level but, along with Ballance, he is a possible stalking horse for Jonny Bairstow in the slightly problematic No.6 slot in the batting order. England believe they have unearthed a special all-round talent, and his seam bowling is an attractive additional option.

**IAN BELL**

(Age 31, Tests 93)

Bell's Rolls-Royce technique purred through this Ashes summer and his three centuries – in victory each time – were the obvious difference between the two teams. England must hope he can continue his mastery of the Australian attack.

**MONTY PANESAR**

(Age 31, Tests 48)

It is a leap of faith from the selectors to trust Panesar to maintain his equilibrium off the pitch if, as seems likely, he has plenty of time on his hands as Swann's spin understudy. Professional help seems to have him back on the straight and narrow.

**GRAEME SWANN**

(Age 34, Tests 57)

A member of England's clutch of triple Ashes-winners and a key part of the character of the team. His country's most successful off-spinner has taken 55 of his Test wickets against Australia, but will not be satisfied yet.



KP SET TO REACH 100th TEST LANDMARK IN SERIES OPENER

**KEVIN PIETERSEN**

(Age 33, Tests 99)

England's most charismatic batsman returned from injury in the nick of time for this summer's Ashes. His best contribution was to come in the drawn Test at Old Trafford, which confirmed the Ashes were retained. Pietersen is set for his 100th Test in Brisbane, an achievement he will be out to mark in style.

CHRIS TREMLETT

(Age 32, Tests 11)

The suspicion has been that his injuries have taken their toll, and he is perhaps not the same bowler who took 17 wickets in three Tests as England surged to victory three years ago. Crucially, though, the selectors still believe in him.

**JONATHAN TROTT**

(Age 32, Test 48)

Australia have been vociferous in suggesting they may have worked Trott out. He made five scores between 40 and 60 in this summer's Ashes, but England will need something more typically substantial from their inked-in No.3 this winter.

**MICHAEL CLARKE**

(Captain, Age 32, Tests 97)

Australia's skipper is arguably their only world-class batsman, and will need to lead from the front if his side are to avoid a fourth consecutive Ashes series loss for the first time in 123 years. Has hit 1,679 runs at an average of 104 in Australia since becoming Test captain.

**BRAD HADDIN**

(Wkt, vice-captain, Age 36, Tests 49)

Recalled after the 4-0 whitewash in India, Haddin claimed a world-record 29 dismissals for a Test series during the summer's Ashes. The veteran came within a whisker of pulling off a stunning win in the first Test at Trent Bridge.

**ASHTON AGAR**

(Age 20, Tests 2)

Made a stunning and shock debut at Nottingham when he belted 98, the highest Test score by a No.11. His left-arm spin did not impress anywhere near as highly, however, claiming two wickets before he was dropped for Nathan Lyon after the second Test at Lord's.

**FAWAD AHMED**

(Age 31, Tests 0)

After fleeing from his native Pakistan to seek asylum, the leg-spinner has made a fairytale rise. A change in Government policy was needed to accommodate that – his residency was fast-tracked in June – before he made his bow during the Twenty20 series in England.

**GEORGE BAILEY**

(Age 31, Tests 0)

Has won plenty of admirers recently with performances in limited-overs matches. A run-filled tour of India, when he was captain, followed a healthy series against England after the Ashes. His cool head appears a perfect fit for Australia's middle order.



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AUSTRALIA

JACKSON BIRD

(Age 26, Tests 3)

Will be unavailable for the start of the series with a back injury which forced him home from the series in England. Played only the one Test in Chester-le-Street, taking two wickets. Leading wicket-taker in the Sheffield Shield two years ago, with 53 victims at an average of 16.



MITCHELL JOHNSON

(Age 32, Tests 51)

The left-arm-er's recent resurgence in the limited overs arena has seen him blast back into contention for the Test side after he was overlooked for the summer's Ashes. A figure of fun for England fans, he has worked on greater consistency and a remodelled action.



PETER SIDDLER

(Age 28, Tests 46)

Siddle is the most experienced of Australia's bowlers and an inspiration with his never-say-die attitude. He may not possess the class of the young fast bowlers around him, but Siddle has repeatedly been reliable. Took a first Test hat-trick in the last Ashes series Down Under.



ED COWAN

(Age 31, Tests 18)

Ditched after one Test in England when he made a first-ball duck before falling to Joe Root's gentle off-spin in the second innings. Earned his 18 Tests on the back of gritty determination, but only one century and an average of 31 has forced him down the pecking order.



USMAN KHAWAJA

(Age 26, Tests 9)

The Pakistan-born left-hander was hailed as the next big hope when he made his debut in the final Test of England's 3-1 series win three years ago. Since then he has played only eight more Tests, passing 50 twice, and was one of the 'Mohali Four' thrown off the tour of India.



MITCHELL STARC

(Age 23, Tests 12)

Another of Australia's injury-prone young paceman, Starc will be unavailable for the start of the series in Brisbane. The left-arm-er can be wayward at times, but his ability to find late swing marks him as a wicket-taker. Also a handy lower-order batsman.



JAMES FAULKNER

(Age 23, Tests 1)

Earned England's ire on his debut at The Oval when he said fans should be given a refund after a slow batting day. The left-arm-er added substance to his words with six wickets. He is still likely to have been over-taken for the left-arm-er's role following Mitchell Johnson's resurgence.



NATHAN LYON

(Age 26, Tests 25)

After being overlooked for Agar at the start of the last Ashes, Lyon again proved his reliability once recalled. He bowled with guile in Chester-le-Street and has a respectable return of 85 wickets in 25 Tests. Despite that, he could face pressure from Fawad Ahmed.



MATTHEW WADE

(Wkt, Age 25, Tests 12)

Wade has lost the wicketkeeper's gloves to Haddin in Test and one-day cricket and faces a tough task to get them back. Had a horror time behind the stumps in India before the runs dried up in the limited-overs matches against England. He has two Test centuries to his name.



RYAN HARRIS

(Age 34, Tests 16)

Defied his history of injury to play four Tests in England and Australia were rewarded with 24 wickets at 19.58. Injury did finally catch up with Harris in the final Test, when he was forced off with a hamstring problem, but has recovered to become leader of the attack.



JAMES PATTINSON

(Age 23, Tests 12)

The archetypal Aussie paceman – hostile, mouthy and, above all, very quick. He has 42 wickets in his 12 Tests but, as with Australia's young quicks, is prone to injury. A back stress fracture forced him home early in the summer and he is not likely to be fit until the third Test.



DAVID WARNER

(Age 27, Tests 22)

The controversial opener is everything good and bad about this Australian team. At his best he can take a game away from an opposition – witness his 180 from 159 balls in a Test against India in Perth two years ago. At his worst he is a disciplinary nightmare, as Joe Root knows.



PHIL HUGHES

(Age 24, Tests 26)

The most-maligned batsman in a line-up that has earned its fair share of ridicule. Hughes played well for an unbeaten 81 at Trent Bridge in the summer, but scores of 0, 1 and 1 then saw him dropped once more to ponder his quirky technique.



CHRIS ROGERS

(Age 36, Tests 6)

Australia's obvious batting success of the summer, he returned five years after his only previous Test to score 367 runs at 40.8. That included a first century at Chester-le-Street as he provided much-needed stability at the top of the order.



SHANE WATSON

(Age 32, Tests 46)

One of the batsmen with his head on the chopping board after the fourth Test in the summer, he responded with 176 at The Oval, his first Test ton in three years. Consistency is his major flaw, but his medium-pace bowling is an extra option.



Here we go again – and this time it could be close

By David Clough

THE Ashes are a blessed brand.

When administrators decided 10 Tests had to be staged in back-to-back home and away series, packed into the space of barely seven months, they risked jeopardising the magic of the age-old contest.

It was a pragmatic move, to ensure England's prospects of winning a first World Cup would not be compromised by having to give their all in Australia months, or perhaps even weeks, earlier.

The risks were all too evident. Robbing an Ashes series of its popularity might curtail the public's enduring goodwill, just as obviously as England's overdue win in 2005 did the opposite for a generation.

Stakes are therefore high and still unresolved for English and even world cricket, in the short gap between summer 2013 and winter 2013-14. The suspicion, though, is that this gamble will pay off, and precious heritage will survive.

For England, at least, there appears to be too much on the line for anything that happens Down Under between November 21 in Brisbane and January 7 next year in Sydney to play out as humdrum.

No one who first advocated this correction to the future tours programme could have anticipated England – for so long the stooges of modern Ashes series – would have their eyes on a fourth successive series victory, for the first time since 1890.

An achievement which evaded England throughout the 20th century is a realistic prospect for Alastair Cook's team under the studied eye of Andy Flower, the coach who has overseen the hat-trick and may have his sights on a glorious conclusion to his involvement.

Among the tourists – depending on the fitness of Tim Bresnan – are 12 of those who won last time in Australia, only three rather than the traditional four years ago. Two of them – Kevin Pietersen and Ian Bell – could also be celebrating a fifth Ashes series victory.

Another key factor is likely to prevent overkill: despite England's run of recent success, and the emphatic scoreline in the home leg, the series appears well matched.

Whitewash predictions have inevitably been heard already from the usual suspects, but either English coronation or Australian redemption will have to be hard-earned.

Bald statistics can be misleading and contradictory, of course. It is impossible to dismiss the headline figure of 3-0 to England in the most recent edition, but – the prolific and admirable Bell (right) apart – individual averages and aggregates from summer 2013 were a mish-mash on either side.

At best, it is a confused picture, and anyone who tries to argue unequivocally that England will again prove head and shoulders above their oldest rivals on enemy territory may end up with some Christmas revision. Bookmakers Stan James have England favourites at

evens, but both teams have issues to address. Cook was short of his prolific best with the bat this summer, as was the usually ultra-reliable Jonathan Trott. Both were near-immovable in 2010-11, but cannot fairly be expected to hit those heights again.

Bell has become the safest bet, but cannot set the tone from No.5, while Cook's opening partner Joe Root faces another exacting challenge at this early stage of his career.

Pietersen, set to beat Cook to his century of Tests at the Gabba, is the habitual and supremely talented wildcard in an England batting order which is not entirely convincing at present.

The same goes, and doubly so, for their hosts. Australia lost linchpin Mike Hussey last winter, and captain Michael Clarke is a hostage to fortune with a chronic back injury.

It remains to be seen whether Steve Smith's

Oval century was a breakthrough innings, and – given the inconsistencies of others – it would be hard to fathom if the vastly-improved George Bailey did not add a belated Test debut to his half-century of short-format caps at some point this winter.

Three years ago, England out-bowled as well as out-batted Australia. This time, they have invested ever more conspicuously in height, pace and bounce. It is an apparently top-heavy selection that sees Stuart Broad joined by Steve Finn, Chris Tremlett and the

uncapped Boyd Rankin for good measure.

That is not to say it will prove ineffective, and the bluff or double-bluff emanating from Australia about the nature of the Test pitches is intriguing.

Australia's own pace bowlers are the biggest variable of all. They have fielded close on a full XI of them over the past two years, and pinpointing a first-choice attack for the series opener in Brisbane is an awkward business.

The resurgence of Mitchell Johnson could be a telling factor, for example, especially after the way he discomforted Trott and others in this summer's one-day series. The left-arm-er's

well-being will remain an imponderable throughout – just one of many in a series which should keep the Ashes in the headlines after all this winter, and may be closer to call than many believe.

“ Ian Bell has become the safest bet, but cannot set the tone from No.5 ”



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Mitchell Johnson has rediscovered his form in the one-day format

Is Mitch over the hitch?

By Matt Somerford

WHEN Mitchell Johnson was left out of Australia's squad for this summer's Ashes series, it appeared the left-arm's Test career was over.

A victim of inconsistency, injuries and the new wave of Australian quicks, Johnson was brushed to the sidelines.

Yet fast forward six months and the 32-year-old looms as possibly Australia's trump card ahead of this winter's series.

Johnson has steamed back into contention with some blistering performances in one-day games against both England and India.

Injuries to young guns such as James Pattinson, Mitchell Starc and Jackson Bird have opened the door, and Johnson has hacked it down with such vigour that even the most ardent of his Barmy Army tormentors might now give pause.

At his best, Johnson is a match-winner. A Test career featuring 205 wickets – no current Australian bowler comes close – has been built around the types of devastating spells England have fallen victim to in Perth and Leeds in recent years.

Johnson served notice he was not yet ready to leave such days consigned to

history during the limited-overs series after the Ashes, when his pace and bounce troubled all of the English top order, most noticeably Jonathan Trott.

It was all a far cry from a time when Johnson admitted he was 'mentally gone' and wished for an injury to get away from the rigours of touring.

He was granted that morbid wish during the tour of South Africa at the end of 2011, when a foot injury kept him out for a sustained period. It was a break, he believes, which resurrected his career. He said: "Having my injury and that time away from the game was really beneficial for me.

"I could still bowl a decent pace off a short run, but mentally at that stage I was pretty much gone. I was sort of hoping to get injured at that time just to get away from the game, as bad as it sounds.

"When you're on tour you just don't get the chance to work on the things you

want to, but it's been really good to get back, get my strength back, freshen up mentally."

Johnson must still gain selection for the first Test in Brisbane, but he has the backing of bowling coach Craig McDermott.

The former Pest pace bowler has returned to the role after a time away, and believes Johnson is back to his best after remodelling his action in consultation with former Australia swing bowler Terry Alderman.

"I think Mitchell is bowling very well at the moment. He's bowling fast, that's for sure," said McDermott.

"He's getting a bit of shape back into the right-hander, which is important, and his seam position is better from what I can see on the television.

"Certainly his fitness is not an issue. Over the last few years he's been one of the fittest and strongest in the side, so it's really just getting his confidence."

QUIZ

Are you an Ashes expert?

1. Which two members of England's current squad are sons of former England Test players?
2. Which member of England's squad is the son of a former county batsman and grandson of an England Test player?
3. Which England player will win his 100th Test cap if he appears in the first match in Brisbane?
4. Against which country did Michael Carberry make his only Test appearance to date?
5. Who is the highest England run-scorer in all Ashes Tests?
6. Which Australian has taken most English Test wickets?
7. At which ground did England score 903 for seven declared against Australia in 1938?
8. What is the highest individual innings score in an Ashes Test?
9. Who took more Ashes wickets, Dennis Lillee or Glenn McGrath?
10. Name the England sub fielder who ran out Ricky Ponting at Trent Bridge in 2005.

ANSWERS

1. Stuart Broad (Chris Broad) and Jonny Bairstow (David Bairstow); 2. Chris Tremlett (Tim and Maurice); 3. Kevin Pietersen; 4. Brendon; 5. Jack Hobbs (1636); 6. Bangladesh; 7. The Oval; 8. 364 (Len Hutton, The Oval, 1938); 9. Lillee (Dennis Lillee); 10. Gary Pratt.

ASHES FOCUS Five great Australia v England matches Down Under

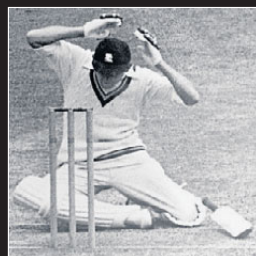
MARCH 1877, MELBOURNE

Australia beat England by 45 runs

What is now considered the first ever Test came before the concept of the Ashes was even conceived. It was billed locally as James Lillywhite's XI v South Australia and New South Wales.

England-born Australia opener Charles Bannerman scored the first Test century in the first innings to put his side in contention. The tourists were set 154 for victory, but Tom Kendall's seven wickets haul saw them bowled out for 108.

England would gain revenge in the second match, also at the MCG, with a four-wicket victory to tie the series.



Frank Tyson is hit by Ray Lindwall in Sydney in 1954. He went on to gain revenge

DECEMBER 1954, SYDNEY

England beat Australia by 38 runs

Having lost the opener at Brisbane, England came roaring back, largely inspired by young Northamptonshire paceman Frank Tyson, who was knocked out by a vicious bouncer from Ray Lindwall in the tourists' second innings.

A fired-up Tyson would have his revenge, however, running through Australia's batting line-up as figures of six for 85 gave him a 10-wicket match haul.

Tyson would also go on to play a key role in the next match at Melbourne as England claimed a 3-1 series win to retain the Ashes.



Australia captain Ricky Ponting becomes one of Tim Bresnan's victims

DECEMBER 2010, MELBOURNE

England beat Australia by an innings and 57 runs

With the series poised at 1-1, England firmly shut the door on Australian hopes of winning back the urn with a dominant performance on day one.

The hosts were all out for 98, their lowest all-out total in an Ashes Test at the MCG. Jonathan Trott's unbeaten 168 then took Andrew Strauss' men to 513 all out before Tim Bresnan, a controversial call-up in place of Steven Finn – leading wicket-taker in the series before being dropped – justified his place with four for 50 as Australia subsided to 258 all out.

England went on to claim their third innings victory of the tour in Sydney to complete a 3-1 series success.

MARCH 1977, MELBOURNE

Australia beat England by 45 runs

A celebration of the very first Test produced exactly the same result 100 years later. Dennis Lillee was the star of the one-off Centenary Test, where the Ashes were not at stake, with an 11-wicket match haul.

Both sides were skittled cheaply in their first innings before Australia made a better fist of things second time round, Rod Marsh scoring an unbeaten 110 as England were set a target of 463.

They looked well placed at 346 for four, but Kerry O'Keeffe took the key wicket of Derek Randall, who had made 174, and England collapsed to 417 all out.



Derek Randall drives Dennis Lillee during his innings of 174 in the Centenary Test

DECEMBER 2006, ADELAIDE

Australia beat England by six wickets

Australians may get misty-eyed at the memory of completing a 5-0 whitewash in Sydney, but this was the Test when that became less a fantasy and more a reality.

There looked to be little danger of anything other than a draw when England racked up 551 for six declared, thanks largely to Paul Collingwood's double century and Kevin Pietersen's 158, while Australia were all out for 513.

All the tourists had to do was bat out the final day, but they were all out for 129, and Australia chased down the 168 required.

Stan

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Jonathan Trott in action in the fifth Test at The Oval, where Australia felt they found a flaw in his technique

Where did it all go wrong, Jonathan?

NO.3 BIDDING TO REDISCOVER BIG SCORES

JONATHAN TROTT has been the cornerstone of England's powerhouse batting line-up for the past four years, and is preparing to return to the scene of his most prolific hunting ground.

What then could possibly go wrong as the nailed-on No.3 bids to recreate his own history and write a unique chapter in England's?

It was in the first Test at Brisbane in November 2010 that Trott combined with Alastair Cook in a record and unbroken triple-century second-wicket stand to emphatically ensure the tide turned against Australia.

Trott was rewarded not just with his part of the Ashes glory over the following two months but then his sport's most prestigious individual annual accolade as the International Cricket Council's Test match player of the year.

Yet three years on, for the first time since the 2009-10 tour of his native South Africa, there are arguably questions to answer. Trott cut an unfamiliar and frantic figure when he ended his first Test trip away with England with scores of five and eight in a landslide Johannesburg defeat four winters ago. Those brief innings were a world away from his Ashes-clinching debut hundred at The Oval four months earlier, and what has followed in most of his Test career to date.

By his standards, though, Trott's 2013 summer was fallow, 293 at a shade under 30 falling well short of the standard he has set and which England supporters have come to expect.

If there are signs of vulnerability, Australia have not been slow to shout about them as they seek to widen the

By David Clough

"cracks" coach Darren Lehmann claims to have spotted in England's batting.

A 3-0 series win is the obvious counter-argument, but Trott is not hiding from his modest summer or the challenge that lies ahead.

"I pride myself on working hard and putting a high value on my wicket," he said as he prepared for the tour.

"I hope I can get out to Australia and do that again, like I've done in the past."

Previous success is no guarantee of a repeat, but he will draw encouragement from the fact this England team – almost to a man, albeit with a new captain after Andrew Strauss' retirement – have been there and done it already.

"It is incredibly difficult. Things went our way," Trott said of 2010-11.

"I think it's important to go there thinking it's going to be tougher, so that if it isn't, it's a bit of a surprise. It's better than going to Australia thinking it's going to be easy. It's a pretty hostile place, a

“

It's a pretty hostile place, a very difficult place to play cricket if you're not winning

”

very difficult place to play cricket if you're not winning."

Trott treasures the success he has already had with his adopted country, but knows a second slice Down Under will have to be hard-earned.

"I'm very proud," he said. "Just to be part of the squad that wins there and creates history, having not won for so long, was fantastic. That's something you'll always cherish."

"But going there expecting to do the same, I think would be a bit naive."

Australia have delighted in identifying chinks in the armoury, and have cited lbw as their likely starting point. There were two such dismissals for Trott in the final Test at The Oval, to left-armers Mitchell Starc and James Faulkner.

His trusted front-foot method of walking at the ball and precisely picking off anything slanted into him has long proved highly effective against the world's best bowlers.

Whether a technical update is in order to stay ahead of the game will be for him and his coaches to decide, after Mitchell Johnson also troubled him in the one-day series with the short ball.

Whatever is required, Trott will not be shy of putting in the hours of practice and will never fail for lack of commitment. He has made a virtue of hard work and attention to detail and, at 32, is still regularly first in and last out of the nets whenever he has the chance.

"Having played cricket for long enough, you realise things aren't always set in stone – and nothing's given to you," he said. "No one's got a divine right to go into any match thinking they're going to score runs."

ASHES FOCUS

England and Australia career Test averages

ENGLAND BATTING												
Name	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avg	100	50	Ct	St		
KP Pietersen	99	171	8	7886	227	48.38	23	33	60	-		
AN Cook	97	173	10	7801	294	47.85	25	32	89	-		
IJL Trott	48	85	6	3744	226	47.39	9	18	29	-		
IR Bell	93	160	21	6487	235	46.66	20	37	73	-		
MJ Prior	72	109	19	3813	131*	42.36	7	26	206	13		
JE Root	11	21	2	763	180	40.15	2	3	6	-		
MA Carberry	1	2	0	64	34	32.00	-	-	1	-		
JM Bairstow	12	20	2	544	95	30.22	-	4	6	-		
TT Bresnan	21	22	4	541	91	30.05	-	3	7	-		
SCJ Broad	62	85	10	1855	169	24.73	1	10	19	-		
GP Swann	57	70	13	1335	85	23.42	-	5	50	-		
ST Finn	23	29	14	169	56	11.26	-	1	6	-		
CT Tremlett	11	13	4	98	25*	10.88	-	-	4	-		
JM Anderson	87	117	42	787	34	10.49	-	-	48	-		
MS Panesar	48	64	23	216	26	5.26	-	-	10	-		

* Gary Ballance, Boyd Rankin and Ben Stokes are uncapped

ENGLAND BOWLING												
Name	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5w	10w	SR			
JE Root	30	8	72	3	24.00	2-9	-	-	60.00			
CT Tremlett	447.4	109	1311	49	26.75	6-48	2	-	54.81			
GP Swann	2414.1	472	7078	248	28.54	6-65	17	3	58.40			
ST Finn	724.4	135	2646	90	29.40	6-125	4	-	48.31			
JM Anderson	3201.1	745	9907	329	30.11	7-43	15	2	58.37			
SCJ Broad	2154.1	459	6637	217	30.58	7-44	10	2	59.56			
TT Bresnan	716.3	171	2151	67	32.10	5-48	1	-	64.16			
MS Panesar	2008.2	459	5540	164	33.78	6-37	12	2	73.47			
IR Bell	18	3	76	1	76.00	1-33	-	-	108.00			
IJL Trott	117	11	398	5	79.60	1-5	-	-	140.40			
KP Pietersen	214.3	14	869	10	86.90	3-52	-	-	128.70			
AN Cook	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	-			

AUSTRALIA BATTING												
Name	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avg	100	50	Ct	St		
MJ Clarke	97	164	17	7656	329*	52.08	24	27	111	-		
DA Warner	22	40	2	1401	180	36.86	3	8	18	-		
SR Watson	46	85	2	2998	176	36.12	3	20	30	-		
CJL Rogers	6	11	0	386	110	35.09	1	2	5	-		
MS Wade	12	22	4	622	106	34.55	2	3	33	3		
BJ Haddin	49	83	9	2514	169	33.97	3	12	193	5		
PJ Hughes	26	49	2	1535	160	32.65	3	7	15	-		
AC Agar	2	4	0	130	98	32.50	-	1	-	-		
EJM Cowan	18	32	0	1001	136	31.28	1	6	24	-		
MA Starc	12	20	6	433	99	30.92	-	3	4	-		
JL Pattinson	12	18	7	331	42	30.09	-	-	1	-		
UT Khawaja	8	15	2	352	65	27.07	-	2	5	-		
MG Johnson	51	76	12	1406	123*	21.96	1	7	17	-		
JP Faulkner	1	2	0	41	23	20.50	-	-	-	-		
RJ Harris	16	25	8	311	68*	18.29	-	1	6	-		
PM Siddle	46	66	8	872	51	15.03	-	2	16	-		
NM Lyon	25	32	14	242	40*	13.44	-	-	7	-		
JM Bird	3	4	3	7	6*	7.00	-	-	1	-		

* Fawad Ahmed and George Bailey are uncapped

AUSTRALIA BOWLING												
Name	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5w	10w	SR			
JP Faulkner	27.4	4	98	6	16.33	4-51	-	-	27.66			
RJ Harris	547.3	132	1581	71	22.26	7-117	4	-	46.26			
JM Bird	105.3	36	303	13	23.30	4-41	-	-	48.69			
JL Pattinson	379.1	82	1242	47	26.42	5-27	3	-	48.40			
PM Siddle	1630.5	423	4861	167	29.10	6-54	8	-	58.59			
MG Johnson	1890.4	332	6347	205	30.96	8-61	7	2	55.33			
SR Watson	736.3	187	2042	64	31.90	6-33	3	-	69.04			
NM Lyon	923.5	189	2825	85	33.23	7-94	3	-	65.21			
MA Starc	408.2	73	1380	41	33.65	6-154	2	-	59.75			
MJ Clarke	385	58	1129	30	37.63	6-9	2	-	77.00			
DA Warner	45	2	205	4	51.25	2-45	-	-	67.50			
AC Agar	84	17	248	2	124.00	2-82	-	-	252.00			
MS Wade	1	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			

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Sound Bell to shine in tight series

ENGLAND may be going for a historic fourth successive Ashes series win – but it isn't going to be easy.

That may be stating the obvious, but if Darren Lehmann can continue to rebuild Aussie morale – and they can transfer some of their prodigious scoring feats in shorter forms of the game onto the Test scene – they will become a dangerous unit.

They already having plenty of wicket-taking potential, and if the runs start to flow they will suddenly become a very different proposition.

Nevertheless, Stan James still make England evens favourites for the series. A drawn series is rated a 9-2 chance, while Australia's first series win over England since 2006-7 would pay out at 7-4.

The correct score market is always a popular one but is notoriously tricky, so tread carefully. A repeat of the

BETTING by Mark Tattersall

summer's 3-0 win is a 16-1 chance, while a replica of England's 3-1 win on their last visit to Australia is 13-2.

If, as many suspect, it is going to be a tighter affair, the 9-1 on England taking the series 2-1 looks good.

After his prodigious feats Down Under in 2010-11, England skipper Alastair Cook is 11-4 favourite to be his side's top run-scorer again, ahead of Kevin Pietersen (3-1). But many reckon Ian Bell is the classiest of all the England batsmen, and he would pay out at 9-2.

With the ball, Jimmy Anderson (15-8) and Stuart Broad (11-4) are the favourites, but hard, fast tracks can suit spinners too, and Graeme Swann could be a canny bet at 3-1 to rediscover past glories.

ASHES FOCUS Three key battles that could decide the series



ALASTAIR COOK v MICHAEL CLARKE

The captains should have a bigger say than usual in the series' outcome.

Cook is revisiting the scene of what, barring something miraculous, will surely go down as his finest series. His 766 runs in 2010-11 were the work of a man so thoroughly at home with his own game that the opposition barely came into the equation.

Australia had more joy against him in the last series, and know they must do the same again to prevent Cook laying big foundations for the middle order. His status as skipper means he is an even more valuable scalp.

Clarke, meanwhile, faces a big enough challenge just to stay fit for the rigours of an Ashes contest. Cricket Australia are making positive sounds about his back problems, but if trouble flares up again, the home team will be robbed of their one truly exceptional batsman.

Clarke's brand of leadership is thought to be bolder than Cook's but he needs to turn plaudits into wins.

JAMES ANDERSON v MITCHELL JOHNSON

Could Mitchell Johnson really be Australia's (not so) secret weapon? The odds would have been astronomical when England's relentless batsmen and merciless fans reduced his confidence to rubble.

But with his morale rebuilt via some stirring performances in the one-day arena, and a Test place up for grabs amid a raft of injuries to Aussie seamers, he could have his shot at redemption. The Barmy Army would relish his arrival on the scene, but England know an on-form Johnson is a danger to their chances, and will need to get on top of him early.

Anderson, on the other hand, comes into the series brimming with confidence. Unquestioned as one of the world's leading bowlers and England's ever-present go-to man, he will take the battle to the hosts from the off. Proved Australian conditions were no hindrance to him last time out, but must underline that again for the game-plan to work.



GRAEME SWANN v A.N.OTHER SPINNER

Few would disagree that the renaissance of Swann affords the tourists a comfortable advantage on paper.

He is comfortably ahead of any of the spin candidates Australia can put forward and, given helpful conditions, a proven match-winner.

Having been handed plenty of encouragement by home groundsmen this summer, Australia will be expected to do little to help the tweekers this time, so Swann may have to show off his less flashy side and play a holding game for the team.

Australia should – and probably will – call on Nathan Lyon (above) but their selection policy on spinners has been muddled for years and there always seems to be a new brainwave on the horizon.

Lyon was confusingly ditched for Ashton Agar at the start of the 2012 Ashes and will now be nervously looking over his shoulder in anticipation of another possible left-field selection.

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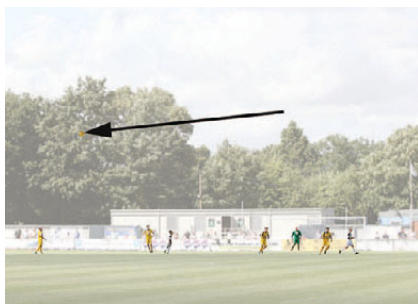
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An incident in an Eastleigh v Oxford City match

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

CRAIG McAllister grabbed a dramatic late winner to take Eastleigh back to within a point of the Skrill Conference South summit with a 1-0 win over Hampshire rivals Farnborough this afternoon.

The Spitfires made one change, bringing Jai Reason back from suspension in place of Stuart Fleetwood (cut leg). With Ramone Rose (tweaked hamstring) also injured and Sam Wilson on loan at Fleet, it left manager Richard Hill short of attacking options on the bench.

The pitch was one heavy downpour away from a postponement and the players struggled to find their footing initially on a soggy, slippery surface.

Reason forced the first corner with eight minutes gone when he scampered after a throw-in and the puddles in the clubhouse end goalmouth were evident as Glen Southam's delivery came in.

Farnborough broke straight down the other end where Reason fouled Elvis Hammond on the edge of the area and Scott Donnelly sent the free kick just over.

On 19 minutes Eastleigh produced the best chance to date when, following neat play on the right, Reason dinked the ball inside for attacking full-back Michael Green to meet with a luscious left-foot volley which cleared the bar by just a matter of inches.

With the half-hour approaching, Boro defender Adam Doyle was booked for a hefty challenge on Reason.

From Damian Batt's free kick, Ben Strevens centred for Yemi Odubade who failed to connect properly with an ambitious volley.

Reason then had a hopeful shout for a penalty turned down after Craig McAllister had fought tremendously hard to win possession.

Farnborough broke and fashioned their best chance on 33 minutes when Dan Bennett took a return pass from Hammond and sent a low shot just wide of Ross Flitney's left-hand post.

The Spitfires responded with Strevens getting goalside of right-back Josh Huggins before drifting a shot beyond the far post.

Four minutes later Boro keeper Kevin Scriven made his first save, getting solidly behind a hard, low drive by Reason who had been found by Jamie Collins on the edge of the area.

Eastleigh continued to press but Scriven had no trouble dealing with weak headers from McAllister and Reason.

In between, Bennett got in behind Green, who had stumbled in the



ABOVE:
Eastleigh Ben Strevens on the ball against Farnborough.

Order no: 17461867

LEFT: Craig McAllister tries to win the ball in the box.

Order no: 17461841

Daily Echo pictures
by Matt Watson

box, but the Boro man lashed the ball straight across the goal-face.

Then, with the half well into stoppage time, Boro worked the ball neatly across from the right and Harry Lee blasted the ball wide.

Eastleigh had the first chance of the second half – McAllister heading Batt's cross narrowly wide at the back stick.

But Farnborough were by no means overawed and hit back with a good chance of their own four minutes later.

Hammond chased a long ball forward down the right and, despite the close attention of Dean Beckwith, managed to get away a shot which flew past the

far upright.

And the visitors soon threatened again when Bennett had time to turn on the edge of the area and play in Dave Tarpey whose shot was blocked.

With confidence brimming through the visitors' ranks, Strevens produced a superb tackle to dispossess Donnelly on the edge of the box.

Boro's Steve Laidler then looked in vain for a foul as Reason dispossessed him on the left, but the Eastleigh man could only muster a delivery which bounced in front of Scriven before the keeper gathered.

With the game opening up, Green then sent an excellent cross

Odubade's way, but the forward's first touch let him down.

Odubade, though, then produced some dazzling footwork to turn on to Southam's through ball and run at the Boro defence, but he was dispossessed by some smart defending from Huggins.

There were calls from the Eastleigh faithful to send off Doyle – already booked – when he crudely blocked off Reason some 25 yards out.

But Radstock referee Richard Hulme would not oblige and Collins struck the free kick straight at the keeper.

It was then the turn of Boro fans to get on Mr Hulme's case when

Stevens appeared to push Olly Treacher slightly as he was seeing the ball out for a goal kick, but their appeals were optimistic.

On 69 minutes Strevens was withdrawn, making way for Chris Dillon who slotted into defence, allowing Green to push on.

Odubade then marauded down the right but, as he drove in towards the area, Boro skipper Alan Inns came across and denied him with an excellent challenge.

After Batt had shot wide for Eastleigh, Boro sub Phillip Page – on for Hammond – found space on the left and crossed for Tarpey who was crowded out by the Spitfires defence.

It then took a fantastic save by Flitney to deny Tarpey after Donnelly had threaded a great ball straight through the heart of the Eastleigh defence.

With six minutes to go, Hill made his last roll of the dice, replacing Chris Todd and Collins with Dan Spence and Will Evans.

The game could have gone either way as it headed towards four minutes of time added on.

A great cross by Odubade went slightly behind Southam who couldn't get a shot away and then, at the other end, Laidler's deep cross just eluded Page before Flitney saved Bennett's long-range effort.

But just when it looked as if time was running out, Eastleigh snatched a dramatic late victory in the last minute of added time.

Substitute Spence broke down the left and played in Green who drove the ball across the area for McALLISTER to bury the winner.

Who are Ya?

London Airways

Dave Stewart (goalkeeper):

Decent outfield player until one too many deep fried Mars Bars moved him back to keeper.

Adam Dodds (left back): Like Forrest Gump, he never stops running.

Ric De Souza (right back):

Portuguese wide man. Think Ronaldo but without any of the flair.

Steve Tongue (centre back):

World's slowest centre half with two gammy legs and one loose screw.

Darren New (centre back): World's second slowest centre half. Good job he can head a ball.

Dave Rodgers (right midfield):

Tricky Scottish winger. Shame he tricks himself more often than the opposition.

Neil Lake (left midfield): Skilful,

quick, borderline greedy at times, and world's smallest footballer 2012.

Ben Puntton (centre midfield):

Debut season. At 26, Airways' youngest player by several years.

John Mills (centre midfield):

Ageing midfield general. Team captain when there's nobody else who wants to do it.

James Clarenbone (forward):

Quick striker, yet to notch this season.

Pete Buckley (striker): Strong

striker. Has scored all our goals this season. Well, almost.

Dave Osgerby: Springy left back.

World's Smallest Footballer 2013.

Meet the manager

Steve Tongue

Age: 34 but I look much older

Lives: Burridge

Occupation: Air traffic controller

Supports: Liverpool

Favourite player: Steven Gerrard

Best footballing moment: 2005

Champions League final, Liverpool

coming back from 3-0 to beat Milan

on pens

Best goal ever seen: Neil Barrett

last season, stunning overhead kick

rifled into the top corner

from 20 yards

Club ambitions: To bring some young blood in to replace the OAPs currently hobbling around the pitch on a Saturday

Team check

Nickname: Airways

Local pub: Harrier Pub, Hamble

Skipper: Whoever gets volunteered on the day

Moaner: Clem Lopez

Motivator: Steve Tongue

Worst haircut: Clem Lopez

Joker: Everyone except Clem Lopez

Professional: Clem Lopez

Worst car: Gary Denney-Miller. Pink mini with eyelashes on the lights.

PARK SCRATCHINGS ... PARK SCRATCHINGS GIGGSY NOT A PATCH ON

MANCHESTER United's Ryan Giggs is considered a football old-timer at 39 years old, but that is nothing compared to Questmap's midfielder and chairman Pete Harding who is still plying his trade at 53.

Not only that, but he still plays the full 90 minutes in central midfield and keeps pace with men half his age.

Harding, pictured below, said: "My secret is that I like boxing and enjoy keeping fit and playing football, I wouldn't do it otherwise."

"I put the club together about six years ago for the local lads to get a game of football and enjoy playing sport," he added.

On this occasion his experience failed to help his side to victory as they were blitzed 5-2 by London Airways in Drew Smith Junior Two on Saturday at Wide Lane.

Airways soared to victory with four goals from Pete Buckley and a clumsy own goal from full-back Dave Parker.

Two converted penalty kicks from Craig Lyons and Liam Nolan replied for Map but it wasn't enough.

London Airways are a team of air traffic controllers who were once based near Heathrow but moved to the south coast.

They have since propelled themselves to the Drew Smith Premier Division before descending to Junior Two last season.

Despite losing altitude they have so far jetted their way among the league's high fliers this campaign, sitting in third place.

Questmap on the other hand have had an indifferent start but still harbour ambitions of promotion this term.

Buckley took his first on 20 minutes when



SAVE: London Airways' James Clarenbone (blue) is denied by Questmap goalkeeper Jack Donohoe.
Order no: 17421993

he robbed a Map defender and ran through one-on-one delivering a powerful shot under stopper Jack Donohoe.

Questmap were then awarded their first penalty after captain Adam Lea was brought down in the box.

Nolan had to endure taking his penalty three times with the referee judging the area was encroached twice; the midfielder took all three in style – nailing the final effort into the corner.

Airways reclaimed the lead five minutes before the break as Parker swung wild-

ly at the ball, volleying it spectacularly into the roof of his own net from a cross.

Sent off

Following the goal, Nolan was sent off for arguing with the referee. The disgruntled Questmap midfielder felt the spectacular own goal shouldn't have stood, stating an Airways player was offside, interfering with play.

Two minutes later Ricardo De Souza cut in from the Airways wing and put Buckley through on goal; his deft touch was enough to take

him away from the Questmap defence and allow him the time to smash home at the near post.

Buckley bagged his hat-trick with a low shot from just inside the box just past the hour mark.

The striker then completed the rout when he blasted a shot into the roof of the net from just inside the box.

The referee then gave Map their second penalty of the day after Ben Puntton and Lyons battled for the ball before tumbling together in the box – the latter converting from the spot.

Questmap manager Adam Harland gave his glum reaction



LONDON AIRWAYS: Back row (from left): Steve Tongue, Adam Dodds, Ricardo De Souza, David Stewart, Ben Puntton and James Clarenbone. Front: Neil Lake, Darren New, John Mills, Dave Rodgers and Peter Buckley.

Daily Echo pictures by Matt Watson
Order no: 17421993

Next week's Scratchings: Thompson FC v FC White Horse

PARK SCRATCHINGS ... PARK SCRATCHINGS

QUESTMAP GOLDEN OLDIE



Order no: 17421971

BALL WATCHING: Action from Questmap (green) v London Airways.

after a torrid match for his team: "I hate to say it as it sounds like we're making excuses but the red card changed the game unfairly," he said.

"From that point it was a struggle, we're down to ten men, which was the turning point in the game.

"But at the end of it we conceded five goals and that is not good enough, we weren't keeping the ball very well. We should have done better.

"We've played other teams that are younger and fitter, I think if we had 11 players on the field we would have got something from this.

"The second half, we tried to con-

trol the midfield a bit more and go at them but we obviously exposed ourselves.

"It's a bit of a gamble doing that – especially with three at the back, it was a risk but we had to go for it!" Despite the heavy loss Harland felt that his side are on track of greater things this campaign. "I want to win the league – no doubt about it," he said.

"We have good players and we'll be up there – we just need to start getting decent points on the board.

"The squad is fairly new together and it's just a process of bonding them all together in the next few games."



UP FOR IT:
Action from
Questmap
(green) v London
Airways.
Order no: 17422018

Team check

Questmap

Nickname: QM

Local pub: The Harrier, Hamble.

The skipper: Adam Lea.

The moaner: Take your pick ... we seem to be surrounded by them.

Mr Motivator: Peter Harding. He is found talking for the entire 90 minutes. It's just a shame that quite often it's to himself!

Worst haircut: Dave Parker. Just have a look at the team photo. It needs no explanation, which is lucky as I don't

think we could even try to explain.

Club joker: Drew Foss. King of the quips and the one liners.

The professional: Gary Davey. Would have made a fine sergeant major, and he likes to wag a finger to 'inspire' his teammates from time to time.

Who owns the worst car and what is it? This one should actually be quite easy as most of the team can't, or won't, drive! Again, this one goes to Peter Harding, with his rather sexy little pink sports car.

Who are Ya?

Questmap

Jack Donohoe (goalkeeper): In his first season in men's football has still not realised that he shouldn't wear his little sister's hair-band in the changing rooms.

Gary Davey (full-back/centre mid-field): Assistant manager who models himself on Fabrizio Ravanelli. Likes to lead on and off the pitch – especially when found near a dance floor.

Dave Parker (left back): Likes to sport the Mohawk in tribute to David Beckham; has not yet progressed on to wearing a sarong.

Drew Foss (centre back): Our very own Peter Crouch, and has actually already won a header this season.

Nathan Brown (centre back): Nicknamed Sniper, he loves a slide tackle.

Liam Nolan (midfielder): Obviously likes Christmas, as he seems to get excited about receiving cards each week.

Pat Goode (left winger): Our very own veteran Welsh wizard. Good left foot.

Peter Harding (centre midfielder): Club chairman and veteran midfielder. Is currently approaching his centenary season playing local football.

Adam Lea (centre midfielder): Club captain. Is just making his return this season after being fitted with a bionic knee during the summer.

Conor Nolan (winger): Likes to blame his boots for his performances.

Craig Lyons (forward): He has already covered more ground than the entire team from last season.

Mark Budd (utility player): Buddy has excellent feet, but it would seem that in his advancing years, he is not always in control of them.

Wayne Haydon-Fox (left back): 'Smiler' always wants to be the star of the show.

Tony Kendall (assistant manager): Likes to share his many years of experience of playing as a goalkeeper with the lads.

Meet the manager

Adam Harland

Age: 29

Where are you from: Netley Abbey

Occupation: IT desktop manager

Position in the club: Manager, secretary and general dogsbody

Who do you support: Southampton

Favourite player:

Matthew Le Tissier

Your best foot-

balling moment:

Seeing

Southampton

promoted back

to the Premier

League

Best goal you

have ever seen: In

local football it has to

be Mike Bessant's strike

for Roll Call against a Portsmouth

side in the Hampshire Cup. It was

quite possibly the best volley that I

have ever seen.

Ambitions for the club: We wish to lay the foundations to establish ourselves as a decent local team. In terms of this season, we hope to achieve a respectable league position and hopefully reach a cup final or two along the way.



QUESTMAP: Back row (from left): Tony Kendall, Wayne Haydon-Fox, Liam Nolan, Drew Foss, Dave Parker, Nathan Brown, Craig Lyons, Pat Goode and Adam Harland. Front: Conor Nolan, Mark Budd, Jack Donohoe, Gary Davey, Pete Harding and Adam Lea.

Order no: 17422032

Want to be featured? Contact Pete Howard on 02380 424513

Trev hits Targett

THE aptly-named Trevor Targett bagged a hat-trick as Hampshire FA Veterans Cup holders Colden Common hit SEVEN in the second round of their defence.

Targett's treble helped Vets A high-fliers Colden Common to a 7-2 thrashing of Vets B league leaders Michelmersham & Timsbury.

Last year's beaten finalists, Hythe Aztecs, also secured a place in the third round with a 3-0 drubbing of Hedge End Rangers.

So too Locks Heath, who won a ten-goal thriller against Bishop's Waltham Dynamos.

There were also Vets Cup wins for BTC Southampton A, Follands, Fleet Spurs, Sporting BTC and Regents Park.

Thrashed

HUMBLE Plumb plumbd new depths when they were thrashed 12-1 in the Veterans Over-40 league.

Langley Manor's Matt Osborne scored SEVEN of them as the league's leakiest defence took another battering.

Humble Plumb have now conceded 76 goals in 11 games this season, their first in the league after joining at the last minute.

But at least they scored for only the second time this season. They now have a goal difference of minus 74...

Elsewhere in the Veterans Over-40 league, Sporting BTC beat fellow strugglers Winchester OB 2-0.

On a roll

SEVERAL sides made it through to the next round of the Hampshire FA Junior A Cup.

AFC Phoenix XI and Wellow are flying the flag for Junior 3 and Junior 2 Hamble United are through after beating Basingstoke-based Herriard Sports 6-0.

They are joined in the next round by Junior One duo Langley Manor, who won 4-1 away to Southsea United and Compton, who beat Yarmouth & Calbourne 3-2.

But Chandler's Ford lost 2-1 at South Wonston Swifts and bottom-of-the-table Lowford's struggles continued, beaten 4-1 by Northwood St John's reserves.

Ad a boy

THERE were four hat-tricks scored by Junior League players last weekend.

Adam Burrows bagged all four as Junior 4 side Sporting Wessex beat Basingstoke Athletic 4-1 in the second round of the Hampshire FA Junior B Cup.

Pete Buckley also netted a quadruple as London Airways soared to a 5-2 win at Questmap.

Richard Frost hit a match-winning treble as Capital beat Otterbourne A 4-1 in Junior 3.

And in Junior 5, Luke Gamblin's hat-trick proved the difference as Upham reserves beat Braishfield Reserves 5-3.

Drew Smith Southampton Football League

COOKING WITH GAS...



UP FOR IT: Action from Questmap (green) v London Airways (see Park Scratchings on pages 32-33). Order no: 17422030

Welly have to Brin and bear it

HAREFIELD Reserves pulled off a cup shock by beating a side three leagues higher last week.

Goalkeeper Brin Jordan was the star for the Junior 4 outfit, pulling off the crucial penalty save, as Junior 1 FC Wellington were beaten 5-4 in a shoot-out.

Harefield's second string have only one win

to their name in the league this season, having lost three of their four games in Junior 4.

But they are now in the third round of the Junior League Cup.

Another Junior 4 side, AFC Hiltingbury Reserves, won the only Junior League Cup tie last week, beating Junior 5 strugglers Hamble United Reserves 3-0.

NETLEY Central Sports are having to change in the club KITCHEN.

The Drew Smith Southampton League Premier Division outfit are making way for the visiting side at their council-owned home after the away changing room was shut because of 'structural damage', writes SIMON WALTER.

Club spokesman Michael Harvey said: "The away changing room was shut by the council due to structural damage, apparently caused by the banging of boots on the wall.

"You wouldn't have thought a boot could do that much damage but we can't get in there to see exactly what the problem is.

"We've got one shower in the spectators' toilet block so some players queue up to use that, but for now the kitchen is the home changing room.

"It's not ideal but our next home game, against Southampton University, is being reversed so we're playing that at Wide Lane and then they're coming to our place later in the season instead.

"Hopefully we can do the same with other fixtures." Netley Central Sports have played at the Recreation Ground in Station Road for more than 100 years but this is their fourth season in the Drew Smith Southampton Football League.

Shortage

They exited Hampshire Premier League 2004 following an exodus of players, but a shortage of committee members is the biggest current problem.

"We need as many as possible on the committee but we've only got three," said Harvey, who is also a club representative on the Drew Smith Southampton Football League committee.

"The chairman does the pitch but he's well into his 60s. The players are good at helping to get the goals up and they and the manager have brought in sponsorship through their work and associates.

"But we need younger blood to come through. It's not easy, but it's the same for most clubs these days."

Netley Central won 3-0 at home to AFC Hiltingbury last week to move up to third from bottom, level on points with their opponents.

Only one other game was played in the Premier Division, with Bishopstoke WMC winning 3-1 at home to Southampton University to go level on points with league leaders Cadnam United, who have three games in hand.

Cadnam United were in Hampshire FA Intermediate Cup second round action and enjoyed another good win, beating Horndean reserves 6-1 after extra time, with Dan Hanlon scoring four of them.

Chamberlayne AFC went level on points with AFC Gulf Western at the top of Junior 1 by beating the league leaders 4-2.

They climbed above West Totton, who lost 2-1 against Osborne. With several other teams involved in cup action, these were the only other games in the division.

DREW SMITH GROUP SOUTHAMPTON LEAGUE TABLES (not including this weekend's matches)

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Hampshire Colleges football spotlight



BROCK STARS

Robson's charges come from three goals down to win cup match

HOTSHOT: Ryan Fuller scores for Richard Taunton College in their 4-1 victory over South Downs.

Daily Echo picture by Matt Watson Order no: 17446440

BROCKENHURST are through to the second round of the Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges Peter Munro Cup after a 12-goal thriller with Alton, which was eventually settled by a penalty shoot-out.

Three goals ahead and seemingly cruising to a comfortable win, Brock were rocked when Alton scored three goals either side of half-time to storm into a 6-3 lead, **writes MIKE VIMPA-NY.**

But Brock hit back with three goals of their own to pull level at six-all and take the tie into extra-time.

Ironically, no more goals were scored in the extra period – but Brockenhurst went on to win the penalty shoot-out 4-2.

“It was probably the most bizarre game of football I’ve ever been involved in,” laughed Brock coach Kyle Robson.

“After the goal mayhem in normal time, I think both sides had run out of steam before we reached extra-time.”

Former Poole Grammar hit-man Bryce Banfield notched a hat-trick for Brock, whose 3-0 lead had been wiped out by half-time.

Francis Fernandez, Jesse Gould and Pete Barnicoat got



BROCKENHURST COLLEGE: Winners of a bizarre Peter Munro Cup tie. Back row (from left): Matt Gane, Cameron Roach, Jake King, George Baker, Jesse Gould, Steve Deacon, Bryce Banfield, Rob Linsley. Front: Francis Fernandez, Jack Smith, Josh Green, Pete Barnicoat, Elliott Cross, Toby Cuss.

the other goals, while Ashley Wood (2), Dan Mellors (2), Sam Jefferies and Jack Bilsland hit the target for Alton.

Richard Taunton College bounced back from a goal behind to beat South Downs 4-1 at the Hill Lane complex.

South Downs found the key to unlock the RTC defence when Max Kinnaghan turned his marker on the halfway line

and neatly lobbed the visitors in front.

But by the interval of an entertaining tie, Tauntons had nosed in front through Sam Long's equaliser and a header from the influential Josh Chapman.

South Downs were desperately unfortunately not to turn round on level terms as fitness fanatic Josh Fry shook the

RTC goal frame with a stunning 40-yard drive.

Numerous chances went begging – mainly by Tauntons – in the second half before Ryan Fuller restored the hosts' lead.

Kinnaghan wasted a gilt-edged chance to take the tie into extra-time before the previously profligate Babu Bajong – a bit of a cult hero in the RTC side – atoned for some earlier

misses to make it 4-1.

Itchen were the equal lead first round scorers, hammering St Vincent 9-2 with Callum Parker, Brad Doyle, Kurtis Garraway, and Coby Wilson all scoring doubles, but skipper Jamie Blackburn arguably the goal of the match.

Sparsholt, twice beaten by Itchen in recent finals, put nine unanswered goals past Havant.

Beaten 2-0 by Totton in last season's final, Portsmouth are clearly going to be a threat once again – a fact that Farnborough will unquestionably support!

A goal up inside four minutes, Portsmouth thrashed them 7-0, with Charlie Taylor opening their account and Andy Rinomhota and Lloyd Rowlett adding further goals before half-time.

Two Portsmouth goals by Charlie Taylor and Mitchell Smith in four early second half minutes ended it as a contest.

Brad Taylor and Grant Radmore piled on the Boro' agony with further goals.

Cup holders Totton, meanwhile, trimmed Queen Mary's 4-3.

A Tom Nichols brace, improved by Ryan Crockford's strike, gave Peter Symonds a 3-0 win over Basingstoke, but the previously unbeaten PSC II side lost 4-1 to Barton Peveril, with Adam Price getting the consolation goal.

QF carrot for Winch

A PLACE in the quarter-finals of the Boodles ISFA Cup beckons for Winchester College if they can win their third round tie on Tuesday, 2pm.

Winners over Bromsgrove (2-1) and Tonbridge (4-2) in the previous rounds, Winchester host Hammersmith-based Latymer Upper.

Nico Sollohub (2), George Herring and Harry Hands scored in the Tonbridge win for Winchester, who are coached by former Saints assistant manager Lew Chatterley.

Testwood rain wait

TESTWOOD Sports College will host Queen Elizabeth

Wimborne in the English Schools FA Under-16

Premier League Cup – when it stops raining!

They were due to play their fourth round tie at Testwood yesterday afternoon, but the elements won the day with the pitch waterlogged.

Testwood have so far knocked our local rivals Bitterne Park 3-1 and Hounslow 1-0.

Trophy battle

SOUTHAMPTON Boys were set to face Mid-Oxfordshire in the English Schools Under-15 PlayStation Trophy at the Marlborough School, Woodstock, this morning.

Gosport & Fareham's third round tie with Brent has yet to be arranged.

HAMPSHIRE Sixth Form Colleges League – Wednesday's matches:

Alton v Richard Tauntons, Barton Peveril v Brockenhurst, Itchen v Farnborough, Peter Symonds v Bournemouth & Poole, Poole Grammar v Basingstoke, Sparsholt v Portsmouth, St Vincent v Queen Mary's, Totton v Havant.

EMAIL TEAM PICTURES TO echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Cup draws

Hampshire FA Saturday Intermediate Cup 3rd rd (Dec 7)

West Wight v Newport (IOW) Reserves, Colden Common v Locksheath, Old Oakmeadians v Baffins Milton Rovers, Portcastrian v Hamble Club, Liphook United v Alton Town Reserves, Spartans v Solent Saints, Riverside v Sholing FC Reserves, Richmond Park Con Club v Old Farnboroughians, Hamble Club Reserves v Petersfield Town Reserves, Brading Town v AFC Totton Reserves, Nursling v Overton United, Andover Lions v Clanfield, Headley United v Team Solent Reserves, Horndean Hawks v ECS, West Meon v Warnford v Cadnam United, Sway v Winchester Castle.

Hampshire FA Saturday Junior A Cup 3rd rd (Dec 7)

FC Burghclere v AFC Burton, Langley Manor v Niton Reserves, South Wonston Swifts v Hook, Basingstoke Royals v Westover Bournemouth Reserves, Courtmoor or Hartley Wintney A v London Airways, AFC Springbourne v Bramley United, Hamble United v Bishops Waltham Dynamos Sports, AFC Gulf Western v Whitecroft & Barton Sports, Seaview v Overton United A, Baughurst AFC v Wellow, New Inn v Newchurch, Welly Old Boys v Wey Valley, Northwood St Johns Reserves v Bournemouth Electric, Mudeford Mens Reserves v Andover New Street Swifts, Tadley Calleva A v Compton Reserves, AFC Phoenix XI v Compton.

Hampshire FA Saturday Junior B Cup 3rd rd (Dec 7)

Michelmersham & Timsbury A v South Coast Sports, New Forest Reserves v Overton United B Team, Burley v Ropley, Holmwood Athletic v Whitecroft & Barton Sports Reserves, Bishops Waltham Dynamos Sports U21 v DJS Telecoms, Sporting Wessex v Bembridge, Headley United A v Bengal Brasserie, Seaclose v New Forest or High Park Tavern.

Hampshire FA Saturday Veterans Cup QF (Dec 7)

Sporting BTCv Hythe Aztecs, Locksheath v BTC (Southampton, Colden Common v Regents Park, Fleet Spurs v Folland.

Hampshire FA Faith Cup 2nd rd (Dec 7)

Leigh Park Baptist Church v St Marys, Lansdowne v Eastleigh Baptist, KCC v Bournemouth Community Church, Boscombe S A v St Edwards, MVC v Hedge End St. Luke's, Canford Heath URC (The Beacon Church) v A B & C St Peters, Rossmore and Parkstone v MVC Kings, FC St Peters v Heartlands United, NLCC Fordingbridge v Hedge End MFC Reds or Vinechurch Poole, Winton Wanderers v Kings Church, Winton United v Hedge End MFC Blues, Testwood Baptist Church v Locks Heath Free Church, Winton SA v Trinity, FC Independence v Highfield Church, City Life Church v God First, BCHA v St Katherine's.

Hampshire FA Sunday Senior Cup QF (Dec 8)

Alan & Wright v East Christchurch SSC, City Central v Queens Park, Co-Op Dragons v K R L, AFC Purbrook v Priory Quays.

Hampshire FA Sunday Intermediate Cup 3rd rd (Dec 8)

DJE Electrical v TMF, Lotus XI v Republic Of Chineham, Cricketers Arms (Fair Oak) v Vienna Manor, Tron v Mother Shipton, Sheffield English or Wicor Mill v Locksheath WMC, Eversley & California v Dayers Fine Foods, CTG Portsmouth v Milton Rovers, AFC Havant Town v White Hart Arms, FC Chute Sports v Bush Hill & Newton Heath 1977 or River Bowl, Eastbrook Harriers v AFC Horns, AFC Portchester v CNE United, Sporting Silchester v Andover Saints, Redhill v FC Boca, Robin Hood Rovers v C I, West Farnborough v AC Copnor, AFC Wherwell v AFC Hawley.

Hampshire FA Sunday Junior A Cup 3rd rd (Dec 8)

Wickham Dynamos v Victoria Cross, Weybourne v AFC Gosport Select, Crofton Saints v Halfway United, Cottage Loaf v R S Ocean Village, Milton Rovers Reserves v Magpies, Royal Mail Bournemouth v Owslebury, Shoulder of Mutton United v Roll Call, Gullivers Tavern (First) v Bournemouth Electric Reserves, Daedalus or T F United v RAF Odiham Blades, Eastrop Eagles v Sky Blues, Duke of York v Thistle, Locksheath v South View, Horndean XI v AFC Riverside, Down End v Farlington Academicals, AFC Burns Lettings v Chartwell Green, C J Glass v AFC Bursledon.

Hampshire FA Sunday Junior B Cup 3rd rd (Dec 8)

Saints Athletic v Boscombe Celtic, Burridge AFC v Chartwell Green Reserves, Queen Victoria v Dunham Bush, SDC v Bridgeman Colts, Black Horse v Castle United, Cove Manor v Rustwood, Lee Community Centre v Queens Head United, Itchen Saints v AFC Stoneham or King George, Alton Town U21 v AFC Swood, Ensbury Park Rangers v AFC Portchester, Darby Green and Potley v Landguard Rovers, Cove Athletic v BOSC Sunday, FFC XI v Wallop Wanderers, Richmond Park Rangers v Horndean United, Diggers Elite v FC Hybris, Bridge AFC Reserves v FC Boca Reserves.

Hampshire FA Sunday Junior C Cup 3rd rd (Dec 8)

Fareham Park United v AFC Alverstoke, AFC Dynamo v White Lion, Waterlooville Social Club Reserves v Throop United, Rushmere v AFC Lovedean, AFC Cleaning v AFC Wolverdene B, Vine (Gosport) v Morley Road Academicals, Market House Tavern Reserves v United Rushmoor, FC Fleet v Burridge AFC.

Hampshire FA Sunday Veterans Cup QF (Dec 8)

Freehouse v AFC Portchester, Overton United v French Horn Academicals, VFC Villagerreal v Hawley (Veterans) or Hartley Sunday, Clanford v Pop Inn.

Sunday League football... Sunday League football...

Tin Hut rattle up another victory

ATHLETICO Tin Hut won 3-2 against Riverside Athletic in the City of Southampton Sunday League Junior Division Two.

Luke Fairhurst, George Draper and Pedro Viveiros all scored. Adam Cannon and Ashley Hine replied.

AFC Portswood won 2-1 against LH Galaxy to remain unbeaten. Rob North and Simos Zachariaves

scored, Callum Ovenden replying.

Junior Division Four leaders Roll Call won 3-2 against Carnival UK with Pat Goode, Amish Marjaria and Craig Lyons scoring. Gary Crook and Jamie Barron replied.

In Junior Division Five, Cherbourg thrashed Bannister Park 6-1 with Fala Hassan (2), Lee Hanson, Darrell Coffin, Wayne

Bevan and Kovan Hassan on target.

In Junior Division Seven Matthew Bosanquet came up with a double hat-trick as Mottisfont hammered Testwood Tornados 15-0.

Lewis White and Jason Gradidge both grabbed two goals as Font netted TEN times before half-time.

Dan Scott also scored with Ryan Harris putting through his own goal.

Table toppers Bitterne Ducks won 2-0 at Netley RBL, Toby Withey and Zane Rashid on target.

Anthony Gregory scored twice as New Bridge drew 2-2 with Fawley RBL. Tommy Roche and Ryan Harvey replied.

Sunday strikers are up for the cup

SUNDAY League strikers had Hampshire cup competitions to concentrate on at the weekend.

And City Central's Jamie Thomson came up trumps in the Hampshire FA Senior Cup when he struck four goals to help his side to a 6-0 mauling of Bridge AFC. Aiden Johnson and PJ McLean also found the net as Central stormed into the semi-finals.

KRL smashed Cowplain United 5-0 after an own goal, Colin Harbut and Matty Gray put them three up at the interval.

Craig Swain adding a fourth and Mike Saunders slotted home a penalty to ensure an emphatic win.

Totton Town, 2-0 down at the interval to Priory Quays, replied in the second half through Leon Tatavossian and Josh House – but they still lost 6-2.

In the Hampshire FA Intermediate Cup, Cricketers Arms (Fair Oak) won 5-2 at Yacht Tavern with goals from Joe Moore (2), John Cole, Michael Cook and Chris Emery. Three down at half-time, Mike Bessant and Martyn Poore replied for Yacht in the second period.

AFC Horns romped to a 6-0 win at Basingstoke Saints, scoring four in the first half. On target were Joe Walsh (2), Dan Smith, Martyn Randall, Sean Haines and Liam Wing.

Charlie Sandford and Ben Macey both scored twice as Eastbrook Harriers thumped Portsmouth Supporters Club 6-2. Shane Light and Adam Collier also netted.

AFC Bursledon struck four goals in each half in the Hampshire FA Junior A Cup to thrash Welcome Inn 8-1. Sean Nutbeen grabbed five of them, with Lewis Crook (2) and Blayne Kinley also on target.

HSC Southern Stars replied through Jiwan Gurung and Abdul Otono in a 3-2 loss after extra time to Milton Rovers Reserves.

Royal Mail Bournemouth snatched a 2-1 victory over



ON TARGET: Abdul Otono, left, scored but couldn't save HSC Southern Stars from defeat.

Lokomotiv Eastleigh, Ben Johnson replying.

Foresters AFC were visitors to R.S. Ocean Village last Sunday, the home side letting a 3-2 lead slip and extra time was needed to separate the sides whilst the score stood at 4-4.

Rob Longman (2), John Longman (2), Steve Angel, Akbar Shah and an own goal gave Foresters the 7-4 extra time win.

AFC Riverside won 3-0 at Watersedge Park with Stu Griffiths, Kwame Dublin and Dave Morris on target.

A brace from Gary Klepp saw Chartwell Green claim a 5-2 away

victory against North Warnborough, Tony Sullivan, Callum Channell and Sam McCall also scoring.

Eastleigh Town caned visiting Landguard Rovers 7-1 in the Hampshire FA Junior B Cup, with Jordan Djillali (2), Ross Jones (2), Nathan Bygrave and James King on target.

Jamie Manby (2) and Lee Bunday scored as Durley forced Castle United into extra time, before losing 5-3.

Craig Mew, Dave Fielden, Ben Brown and an own goal all netted as Chartwell Green Reserves won

4-1 at Sutton Scotney 4-1.

Itchen Saints defeated Boyatt Wood Wanderers 4-2 with Jamie Martin (2), James Wilson and Coby Wilson on target. Dan Harkett-Burgess and Jason Palmer replied.

Two goals for Steve Stone and one from Shaun Casey gave Bridge AFC Reserves a 3-2 win over Edstreme Athletic.

In the Hampshire Junior C Cup, Athletic Totton were thrashed 13-2 by United Rushmoor – David Wood and Michael Wood replying.

Burridge AFC won 1-0 against Sporting Compass thanks to an early goal from Jack Becheley.

TODAY'S NON-LEAGUE ACTION - SEE PAGE 31

Southampton Saints... Southampton Saints...



Saints U11 Devils attack against Winklebury Wizards U12s

BETH TURNER struck six goals as Saints U12s romped to a 15-0 victory away to Petersfield.

It took seven minutes before Saints broke the deadlock, Jennifer King on target.

Turner toe-poked her first before adding three more after good work from Kia Antoney and Chloe Hussey. Grace Jenman struck twice to make it 7-0 at half-time.

Lisa Gilham came out of goal for the second half and made an instant impact.

Creative Manisha Kaur playing in front of lone defender Sian Bradbee was a system that worked, Bradbeer reading the game well.

Gilham set up Turner to make it 8-0 and the same player scored her sixth after good work by Jenman.

Antoney scored when she fol-

lowed up a Gilham shot and went onto score another three – one from a lone run, one almost from the corner flag and another set up by Gilham.

King completed her hat-trick when she got on the end of two passes from Hussey, who was the manager's player of the game, never stopping running and causing havoc down the right wing.

The opposition's Saints player of the game went to Turner, for her double hat-trick from midfield.

● Southampton Saints under-16s defeated Oakwood Foxes 6-1 with Issy Glover voted player of the match.

It was Foxes' first eleven-a-side game and they did well, keeping their shape and keeping out Saints for the first ten minutes.

Megan Chapman opened the scor-

ing and Tiff Eley doubled the lead after latching onto an Elidh Currie through ball.

Kayleigh Tonks made it 3-0 before a wicked Pearce corner was bundled in by Belinda Villa.

The second half began with good attempts by Pearce, Chapman, Currie and Glover but it was Oakwood who scored.

Saints were stung and made it 5-1 when Villa's shot rebounded to Pearce who made no mistake. Currie had a great shot tipped over before Villa scored with a bullet header.

● Saints U11s (Devils) hit back in great style to win 8-3 after Winklebury Wizards U12s led after just two minutes.

Remarkably, Devils were 3-1 up eight minutes later with Larissa White netting all three. Two more

goals came from Grace Griffiths and Charlotte Webb before half time.

The second half saw the Wizards conjure up another two goals. But the Devils were not finished, Charlotte Webb scoring from distance before Francesca Manson netted from a tight angle.

Emily Gardner produced some excellent saves in the Devils' goal.

Lucy Nightingale displayed great ball control, while Holly Jerrim worked hard throughout.

Holly McKeowan put in her usual energetic performance, but captain Katelyn Wort was voted player of the match for a totally committed, energetic and intelligent performance.

● Southampton Saints Ladies crashed out of the Women's FA Cup at Gloucester City, conceding the only goal in the second half.

Southampton Youth League

Sway run goes on

SWAY maintained their 100 per cent record in Division 1 of the City of Southampton's Under-18 Youth League with a 3-2 success at BTC (Southampton) Stoneham.

The first half was a scrappy, goalless affair but Sway had by far the better chances and could have gone in four up at the break, writes Alan Johns.

Sway led when a flowing move found Lewis Geard wide on the left and his cross allowed Ben Elliott-Haffenden to slot under the keeper from 12 yards.

Tom Dymond was a persistent threat up front and was brought down during one strong run, converting the penalty himself.

A slip by keeper Cornwell allowed Stoneham to level and set up a grandstand finish but new central defensive pairing Chris Haining and Josh Elliott dealt with everything that was thrown at them.

A good interchange of passes in midfield saw Sam Roberts put Dymond through and he shrugged off tackles by two defenders and then the goalkeeper, getting to his feet each time and rolling the ball in.

Rob Linsley thought he'd put the game beyond doubt but, as he celebrated, the ball hit the inside of the post and rolled along the line to safety.

A mis-timed Jaq Rashleigh tackle gave Stoneham hope from a penalty ten minutes from time.

A minute's silence had been impeccably observed before the start to mark the passing of player Matt Hillary's father, Alan.

Alan's nephew, Aidan Lacy, came off the bench to work tirelessly and continue the threat up front.

● A hat-trick by striker Ollie Lerwey helped Romsey Panthers win 5-4 at Colden Common in Division 2.

Charlie Hart and Andreas Espersen also netted.

Premier Division: AFC Stoneham v Baffins Milton Rovers, Bishops Waltham v Liss Athletic, Headley Utd v Clanfield, Otterbourne v Liphook Utd.

Division One: Broughton v Four Marks, Lyndhurst v Bush Hill, Michelmersh & Timsbury v Dursley, University of Portsmouth v Upham.

Combination: Clanfield v Hamble Club, Hedge End Rangers v Michelmersh & Timsbury, Liss Athletic v Otterbourne, Overton v Bishops Waltham, Paulsgrove v AFC Stoneham.

WILTSHIRE SENIOR CUP

Second round: Southbrook v Downton.

BERKS & BUCKS INTERMEDIATE CUP

Third round: AFC Aldermaston v AFC Corinthians.

MA HART POOLE BAY CUP

Second round: Westover Bournemouth Sports v Westover Bournemouth.

NORTH HANTS INTERMEDIATE CUP

Second round: Hook v Winchester Castle Res, Tadley Calvea Res v Andover Lions.

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP

Third round: Bishopstoke WMC v Hedge End Rangers, Colden Common v Southampton University, Hamble Club v QK Southampton, Locks Heath v Infinity, Winchester Castle v Nursling.

ALDERSHOT JUNIOR CUP

Second round: Liphook Utd Res v AFC Petersfield.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE

Wynvern Challenge Cup

First round: Christchurch v Colden Common.

Premier Division: Bemerton HH v New Milton.

Division One East: Alresford v Alton, Hemdean v US Portsmouth, Locks Heath v Hayling Utd.

Division One West: East Cowes Vics v Team Solent.

Wynvern Shield, League Phase: (D)Petersfield v AFC Portchester, (B)Wimborne Town v Verwood.

LOCAL AND NATIONAL FOOTBALL FIXTURES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, November 11
FA CUP
First round: Shortwood Utd v Port Vale.

Tuesday, November 12
JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY
Southern Section quarter-finals: Newport County v Portsmouth, Peterborough v Dag & Red, Stevenage v Leyton Orient, Swindon v Wycombe.
Northern Section quarter-finals: Chesterfield v Rochdale, Hartlepool v Rotherham, Oldham v Notts County.
SKRILL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
Premier: Barnet v Welling, Braintree Town v Luton, Cambridge Utd v Aldershot, FC Halifax v Hyde, Forest Green v Nuneaton, Hereford v Chester FC, Macclesfield v Kidderminster, Southampton v Lincoln City, Tamworth v Alfreton Tn, Woking v Dartford, Wrexham v Gateshead.
SKRILL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
South: Bath City v Sutton, Gosport Borough v Eastleigh, Staines v Weston-super-Mare.
CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v Frome.
Red Insure Cup, second round: Weymouth v Poole Town.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Horndean v Alresford.
BASINGSTOKE SENIOR CUP
First round: Whitchurch v Hungerford Town.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: New Milton v Moneyfields.

Wednesday, November 13
FIFA WORLD CUP ASIA/SOUTH AMERICA
Play-off first leg: Jordan v Uruguay.
JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY
Northern Section quarter-final: Fleetwood Town v Carlisle.
CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Cambridge City v Stourbridge.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Hamworthy Utd v Lymington Town.
INTER-LEAGUE MATCH
Hampshire Premier League v Bournemouth League.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Wynvern Shield, League Phase: (D) AFC Portchester v Newport IOW, (C) Ringwood v Fawley AFC.

Thursday, November 14
INTERNATIONAL MATCH
Belgium v Colombia.
EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP (selected)
Qualifying Group One: England U21 v Finland U21 (stadium.mk).
Qualifying Group Three: Scotland U21 v Georgia U21.
Qualifying Group Nine: Italy U21 v N Ireland U21.
UNDER-19 INTERNATIONAL
Hungary U19 v England U19.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Wynvern Challenge Cup, first round: Romsey Town v East Cowes Vics.
Wynvern Shield, League Phase: (B) AFC Totton v Wimborne Town.

Friday, November 15
FIFA WORLD CUP EUROPEAN QUALIFYING
Play-off first leg: Greece v Romania, Iceland v Croatia, Portugal v Sweden, Ukraine v France.
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES
Belarus v Albania, Czech Republic v Canada, Denmark v Norway, England v Chile (Bp'n kb), Estonia v Azerbaijan, Italy v Germany, Jamaica v Trinidad and Tobago, Poland v Slovakia, Rep of Ireland v Latvia, Russia v Serbia, Scotland v USA, South Korea v Switzerland, Turkey v Northern Ireland.
EUROPEAN U-21 CHAMPIONSHIP (selected)

Qualifying Group Six: Rep of Ireland U21 v Faroe Islands.
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
League 2: Newport County v Hartlepool.

Saturday, November 16
INTERNATIONAL MATCH
Japan v Holland, Wales v Finland.
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
League 1: Brentford v Crewe, Carlisle v Crawley Town, Colchester v Swindon, Leyton Orient v Preston, Notts County v Wolverhampton, Oldham v Milton Keynes Dons, Port Vale v Shrewsbury, Sheff Utd v Gillingham, Stevenage v Rotherham, Tranmere v Bristol City.
League 2: AFC Wimbledon v Portsmouth, Bristol Rovers v Bury, Dag & Red v Burton Albion, Exeter v Southend, Mansfield v Oxford Utd, Morecambe v Rochdale, Northampton v Fleetwood Town, Scunthorpe v Accrington Stanley, Torquay v Chesterfield, Wycombe v Cheltenham, York v Plymouth.
SKRILL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
Premier: Alfreton Town v Braintree Town, Barnet v Cambridge Utd, Chester FC v Luton, FC Halifax v Aldershot, Forest Green v Lincoln City, Gateshead v Salisbury, Kidderminster v Wrexham, Macclesfield v Dartford, Southampton v Hereford, Tamworth v Grimsby, Welling v Nuneaton, Woking v Hyde.
FA TROPHY
Third qualifying round: Barrow v Stockport County, Basingstoke v Hampton & Richmond, Boreham Wood v Gloucester, Boston Utd v Redditch, Bury Town v Grays Athletic, Chorley v Macclesfield, Colwyn Bay v Altrincham, Curzon Ashton v AFC Fylde, Dover v Bath City, Dulwich v Concord Rangers, East Thurrock v Merthyr Town, Eastbourne Borough v Maidenhead, Ebbsfleet United v Bromley, Gosport Borough v Dorchester, Guiseley v Histon, Harrogate Town v Bradford P.A. Hayes

& Yeading v Bognor Regis T, Hednesford v Workington, Leamington v Gainsborough, Margate v Chesham, Northwich v Nantwich Town, Solihull Moors v Coalville Town, Staines Town v Farnborough, Stalybridge v Vauxhall Motors, Stourbridge v North Ferriby Utd, Sutton Utd v Havant and W, Tonbridge Angels v AFC Sudbury, Weston-S-Mare v Tiverton, Whitehawk v Bishop's Cleeve, Chelmsford v St Albans, Davenport Town v Ramsgate, Hungerford Town v Hemel Hempstead, Arlesey v Marlow, Maidstone Utd v Eastleigh, AFC Telford v Scarborough Athletic, Carlisle Town v Whitstable Town.

CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v Hitchin, Arlesey v Banbury, Bashley v Hungerford, Bedford v Burnham, Biggleswade v Chesham, Cambridge City v Redditch, Corby v Weymouth, Hemel Hempstead v Bideford, Poole Town v St Neots, St Albans v Chippenham, Stourbridge v Truro.
Division One South & West: Clevedon v Godalming, Evesham v Yate, Guildford v Paulton Rovers, Mangotsfield v Bishops Cleeve, Merthyr Tydfil v Bridgwater, North Leigh v Wimborne, Stratford v Cirencester, Swindon Supermarine v Cinderford, Taunton v Fleet Town, Thatcham v Shortwood, Tiverton v Didcot.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Brockenhurst v Christchurch, Fawley AFC v Horndean, Hamworthy Utd v Winchester City, Lymington Town v Romsey Town, Totton & Eling v Whitchurch.
Division One: Amesbury v Andover Town, Andover NS v East Cowes Vics, Cowes Sports v Petersfield, Hayling Utd v New Milton, Hythe & Dibden v Fleet Spurs, Laverstock & Ford v Tadley Calvea, Ringwood v Pewsey Vale, US Portsmouth v Stockbridge.
PUMA ENGINEERING HPL
PEHPL Cup, second round: Fleetlands v

Paulsgrove.
Premier Division: AFC Stoneham v Baffins Milton Rovers, Bishops Waltham v Liss Athletic, Headley Utd v Clanfield, Otterbourne v Liphook Utd.

Division One: Broughton v Four Marks, Lyndhurst v Bush Hill, Michelmersh & Timsbury v Dursley, University of Portsmouth v Upham.

Combination: Clanfield v Hamble Club, Hedge End Rangers v Michelmersh & Timsbury, Liss Athletic v Otterbourne, Overton v Bishops Waltham, Paulsgrove v AFC Stoneham.

WILTSHIRE SENIOR CUP

Second round: Southbrook v Downton.

BERKS & BUCKS INTERMEDIATE CUP

Third round: AFC Aldermaston v AFC Corinthians.

MA HART POOLE BAY CUP

Second round: Westover Bournemouth Sports v Westover Bournemouth.

NORTH HANTS INTERMEDIATE CUP

Second round: Hook v Winchester Castle Res, Tadley Calvea Res v Andover Lions.

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP

Third round: Bishopstoke WMC v Hedge End Rangers, Colden Common v Southampton University, Hamble Club v QK Southampton, Locks Heath v Infinity, Winchester Castle v Nursling.

ALDERSHOT JUNIOR CUP

Second round: Liphook Utd Res v AFC Petersfield.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE

Wynvern Challenge Cup

First round: Christchurch v Colden Common.

Premier Division: Bemerton HH v New Milton.

Division One East: Alresford v Alton, Hemdean v US Portsmouth, Locks Heath v Hayling Utd.

Division One West: East Cowes Vics v Team Solent.

Wynvern Shield, League Phase: (D)Petersfield v AFC Portchester, (B)Wimborne Town v Verwood.

All-action Under-10s Youth Football on Sunday



YOUTH CRICKET - SEE PAGE 44

at Stoneham Lane, Eastleigh

PLENTY of smiles, plenty of goals, plenty of action when these four teams met at Stoneham Lane on Sunday.

Hedge End Rangers (blue and white) took on Hythe and Dibden (green) and Oakwood Lions (blue and red stripes) tackled Eastleigh Reds (blue).

Pictures by PAUL COLLINS.



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	05	London for Shopping - drop off at Park Lane	£20.00
	07 & 13	Bath Christmas Market	£21.00
	08	London Thames Cable Car & Christmas Cruise	£38.00
	14	Portobello Road Market	£20.00
	16	Calais via Eurotunnel	£28.00
	17	Adinkerke via Eurotunnel	£39.50
	18	Gloucester Quays Designer Outlet	£20.00
	28	Disney on Ice at the O2	£52.00
JAN	07	Festival Place Shopping Centre	£16.00
	07	Milestones Living History Museum, Basingstoke	£25.00
	11	London for Shopping	£20.00
	14 & 30	Adinkerke via Eurotunnel	£40.00
FEB	16	Half Day Mystery Tour	£15.00
	22	Portobello Road Market	£20.00

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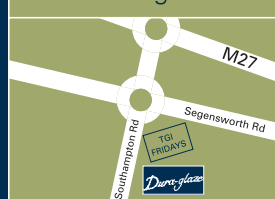
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Local Cricket Spotlight



England menu serves up exotic meals

ENGLAND'S extreme attention to detail is set to come under fresh scrutiny after details of their 82-page health-conscious Ashes menu were leaked.

Almost 200 varieties of food and drink – including “piri-piri breaded tofu with tomato salsa”, a “quinoa and cranberry breakfast bar” and “mungbean curry with spinach” – feature in the catering requirements England have sent to Test match grounds for this winter's Ashes campaign.

Few can be surprised, in the evidently enlightened modern age, that international sportsmen are being encouraged to stick to a healthy diet – especially when in competition.

But the dishes referred to in a document leaked to the Sydney Morning Herald, specifying a comprehensive list of exotic – some may say faddy – foodstuffs will nonetheless give Australian crowds plenty of extra ammunition with which to torment the tourists.

It also provides a window on the painstaking, meticulous work done behind the scenes as England's management try to ensure their team has the edge over the opposition.

The catering options, prescribed by the England and Wales Cricket Board's performance nutritionist Chris Rosimus, contains a selection of food for every potential meal break – adding it is “essential” all are cooked exactly to the chef's instructions.

Rosimus adds in the exhaustive pamphlet: “Some ingredients within this book will not be in season when you come to use them.

“If availability is an issue, please do not use an alternative or omit from the recipe. “Please feel free unless specified to serve the sandwiches on any variety of bread you wish. However, a preference would be whole wheat, seeded or rye varieties.”

It is understood Australia also circulate their nutrition guidelines to venues in advance, but their requirements contain significantly less detail.

Former Australia fast bowler Merv Hughes was happy to offer his predictable reaction to reports of England's high-brow culinary policy.

Asked for his preference, he told the Sydney Morning Herald: “Give me a ham and pickle sandwich.”

In his own playing days, he recalled a simple and reliable menu. “It didn't matter which ground – normally there was a cold meat and salad, roast of the day, a choice of fish and chicken.”

KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT



UNDER-17 BATTING: Joe Weatherley, left, receives his award from Hampshire Cricket's Michael Bates.



TERRY TRODD MEMORIAL AWARD: From left: Andy Gorvin, Janet Trodd and Michael Bates.

Pictures courtesy of Dave Vokes/LMI Photography



UNDER-17 FIELDING: Alex Bass, left, with Michael Bates.

A HOST of promising young cricketers from across the region collected individual performance awards from Michael Bates at the Hampshire Cricket Board boys' junior age group presentations at The Ages Bowl.

Havant all-rounder Andy Gorvin was presented with the Terry Trodd Memorial Award, while leg spinner Mason Crane scooped both the under-16 and under-17 bowling prizes, **writes MIKE VIMPANY.**

Hampshire's under-14 side enjoyed the most successful summer, winning eight matches to become ECB County

Under-14 Cup South & West champions.

Hampshire also won eight matches at under-16 level, six at under-15s and 12 at under-13s.

Individual award winners:

Under-tens

Batting: Josh May; Bowling: Ned Andrae; Fielding: Alistair Wheble; Spirit of Cricket.

Under-11s

Batting: George Metzger; Bowling: Sony Reynolds; Fielding: Fletcha Middleton; Spirit of Cricket: Bailey Parratt.

Under-12s

Batting: Patrick Lewis; Bowling: Zac Organ; Fielding: Alex Ayres; Spirit of Cricket: Cameron Robertson.

Under-13s

Batting: Harry Gadd; Bowling:

Tom Spencer; Fielding: Jason Soames; Spirit of Cricket: Will Kerr.

Under-14s

Batting: Tom Gnodde; Bowling: Rhodes Franklin; Fielding: Elliot Mitchell-Lee; Spirit of Cricket: Billy Mead.

Under-15s

Batting: Harry Hovey; Bowling: Ollie Perrin; Fielding: Jadon Buckeridge; Spirit of Cricket: Tom Fay.

Under-16s

Batting: Will Harris; Bowling: Mason Crane; Fielding: Andy Gorvin; Spirit of Cricket: Ben Caldera.

Under-17s

Batting: Joe Weatherley; Bowling: Mason Crane; Fielding: Alex Bass; Spirit of Cricket: Andrew Marston. Terry Trodd Memorial Award: Andy Gorvin.



UNDER-12 BOWLING: Zac Organ, left, with Michael Bates.



UNDER-12 BATTING: Patrick Lewis, left, with Michael Bates.



UNDER-13 BOWLING: Tom Spencer, left, with Michael Bates.

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Non league football extra ... non league extra

Sweet 16 for Pullinger's men

THE Hampshire Premier League have broken their duck in the FA Inter-League Cup and are now gunning for a place in the quarter-finals.

When young AFC Stoneham boss Adam Pullinger took over managerial reins in January, the HPL representative squad had entered the competition for five years without winning a tie.

But having been handed a bye in the first round this season, carrying them into the last 32, they finally gave themselves something to celebrate with a penalty shoot-out victory over the Oxfordshire Senior League.

Oxfordshire went 1-0 up from a first-half free-kick fired low into the bottom corner, but Hampshire responded positively.

Luke Musslewhite equalised

early in the second half, forcing the game to penalties, and it was Overton's Chris Morris who emerged as the hero, scoring the decisive spot kick and receiving the man-of-the-match award.

"It was a well-fought game and the Hampshire players were commended on their passing, attacking style and the speed at which they pressed the ball," said Pullinger.

Hampshire have now drawn Worthing & District in the last 16 to be played on November 23 at Worthing FC.

The HPL representative squad against Oxfordshire was: Sam Whieldon (Colden Common), Ronan Galloway (Winchester Castle), Kris Aubrey (Otterbourne), Phil Ward (AFC Stoneham), Zak Pickett (Otterbourne), Aaron Maynard (AFC Stoneham), Chris Morris (Overton), John Cole (Colden Common), Liam Magee (Colden

Common), Steve Jenkin (AFC Stoneham), Ollie Irwin (AFC Stoneham), Adam Saunders (Winchester Castle), Luke Musslewhite (Liss Athletic), Tom Sands (Otterbourne FC), Tom Smith (AFC Stoneham).

The FA Inter-League Cup (formerly the NLS Cup) is limited to Step 7 of the National League System and other leagues as decided by the FA.

It was created with the intention of finding a winning league representative side to fly the flag for England in the UEFA Regions Cup.

The competition is strictly for amateur players who have never been under a written professional contract.

In addition to the Inter-League Cup, Pullinger's HPL squad, who train together once a month, have also entered a round-robin compe-

tion against the Bournemouth League, Dorset Senior League and Dorset Combination.

They are next in action on Wednesday (November 13) at Test Park, Southampton (7.45pm).

Pullinger has selected the following squad for the Worthing game: Sam Whieldon (Colden Common), Carl Steadman (Otterbourne), Phil Ward (AFC Stoneham), Kris Aubrey (Otterbourne), Ronan Galloway (Winchester Castle), Zak Pickett (Otterbourne), Chris Morris (Overton), Mitch Parker (Colden Common), John Cole (Colden Common), Liam Magee (Colden Common), Adam Saunders (Winchester Castle), Steve Jenkin (AFC Stoneham), Callum Pragnell (Colden Common), Luke Musslewhite (Liss Athletic), Steve Harding (Liphook), Tom Sands (Otterbourne). Manager: Adam Pullinger. Assistant manager: Wayne Simpson. Coach: Steve Harrod. Goalkeeping coach: Martin Coe. Physio: Samantha Collett.

Carl up for Town fight

ROMSEY Town boss Carl Bennett loves his new role at the Bypass Ground after taking charge last month – and has faith he can turn their fortunes around, **writes PETER HOWARD.**

After four games in charge, Bennett's side is unbeaten in two Sydenhams Premier Division matches after a 3-2 win over Downton on Tuesday and a 1-1 draw at Hordean on Saturday – but still remain rock bottom.

And the new man couldn't be happier in his new role.

"I love it, I just thrive off being involved in football," he said.

"There was a point when I realised everything will fall back to me but I just love football and being part of a club, you just can't beat it.

"I knew what I was stepping into, so I had no second thoughts – I just wanted the job.

"It's just being around Romsey day-to-day, being part of the atmosphere on a match-day, the preparation that goes into it all.

"It is undoubtedly a stressful job – I've never managed in the Wessex before and it is a new experience, but it's one I aim to thrive off."

Bennett took charge after former boss Danny Barker departed following a run of one win in 14 games – with the final nail in the coffin coming in a 3-0 defeat to fellow Wessex strugglers Bournemouth Poppies.

His side are still adrift two points behind Poppies at the foot of the Wessex Premier but he is confident his side can still avoid the drop.

"We have to remain focussed, commitment is the key to our survival," he said.

"All the players must play for the badge, stick together, and build a good team spirit.

"There is still a long, long way to go but if we can keep playing as we have done recently then I think we can stay up."



CARL BENNETT

SPETCH: MY LEAGUE DREAM

HIGHLY-RATED Poole Town ace Will Spetch has set his sights on gaining a place in the professional ranks and believes he is "ready" for the step up.

The versatile defender has attracted the attention of a host of Football League clubs after turning in a series of eye-catching displays for the Dolphins in the Calor Southern Premier Division, **writes DAN ROSE.**

Spetch, who had an unsuccessful trial with AFC Bournemouth two years ago, has been watched by scouts from Portsmouth, Exeter and Forest Green Rovers in recent weeks.

The 22-year-old said: "I would love to go to any full-time club. Just to play the game professionally would be great.

"If you are playing at this level, it is every boy's dream to be in the Football League. Anybody my age would want to play higher."

Spetch, who has progressed through the ranks at Poole having started out with hometown club Swanage Town & Herston, is looking to tread a path taken by former Dolphins teammate Charlie Austin, currently at Championship outfit QPR.

He turned in another stand-out performance and added to his goal tally during Poole's 3-1 FA Trophy victory against Frome last Saturday.

It was Spetch's late leveller that forced extra-time and the Dolphins progressed courtesy of Steve Devlin's penalty and a Michael Charles strike.

Spetch believes he has grown considerably as a player thanks to the support given to him by the Dolphins' coaching staff – boss Tom Killick, assistant James Wood and player-coach Tarry Richardson – and former teammate Michael Walker, now at Weymouth.

"I feel I am ready to make the step up and a big part of that is down to Tom, Woodsy, Taffy and Michael



RATED: Will Spetch, centre.

Walker," he said.

"I have developed a lot since I had a trial at Bournemouth two years ago and, if I get the chance, I will take it and will try my best.

"Poole have done so much for me and a lot of players don't realise what is done behind the scenes to run a club like this. Hopefully in five to ten years it will be a big club."

Spetch has earned rave reviews at Tatnam since switching from left-back to centre-half and team boss Killick believes he is beginning to "outgrow" the club.

He said: "Taffy, Warren Cummings and I have alerted certain clubs to Will's abilities with the blessing of Poole Town.

"From a playing point of view, losing Will would be a disaster whatever the financial ramifications, but sometimes you have to make decisions that are in the interests of the player.

"Will deserves, and should be given, an opportunity.

"Some of the interest in him is because of what we have instigated, but some of it is because his performances are just coming to people's

attention in the normal way."

Poole reached the end of the Trophy road on Tuesday, beaten 3-2 at Southern Premier rivals Arlesey in the second qualifying round.

Two Carl Preston strikes wiped out a two-goal deficit, but a late Stuart Farrell goal sent Arlesey through to a home tie against Marlow.

"It was desperately disappointing because we had battled hard to get back in it and, having got to 2-2, I felt we looked like the team that would go on and win," said Killick.

Board right behind boss

CHAIRMAN Steve Harvey has given Hamworthy United boss Simon Browne his full backing and insisted the board have never considered replacing their long-serving manager.

A run of nine consecutive defeats in all competitions heaped pressure on the County Ground boss before the Hammers went some way to arresting the slide with a 2-2 home draw against Whitchurch United in the Sydenhams Premier Division ten days ago.

It's not the kind of start ex-Salisbury City defender Browne had envisaged, but supportive chairman Harvey said: "At the moment there is no suggestion of changing the manager. We are all in this together and remain 100 per cent behind Simon.

"We have not suddenly turned into a bad team after our fantastic FA Cup run, we are just on a bad run."

SEE PAGES 14-19 FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

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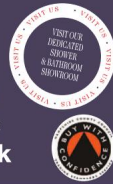
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Barclays Premier League

A. Villa.....	2	Cardiff.....	0
Bacuna 76, Kozak 84		Att 35,809	
HT 0-0			
Chelsea.....	2	W.B.A.....	2
Eto o 45		Long 61	
Hazard 90 pen		Sessegnon 68	
HT 1-0		Att 41,623	
Crystal P.....	L	Everton.....	L
HT 0-0		Att 25,231	
Liverpool.....	4	Fulham.....	0
Amorebieta 23 og			
Skrテル 26			
Suarez 36,54			
HT 3-0		Att 44,768	
Norwich.....	L	West Ham.....	L
HT 1-1			
SAINTS.....	4	Hull.....	1
Schneiderlin 16		Sagbo 55	
Lambert 30 pen			
Lallana 37			
S Davis 88			
HT 3-0		Att 30,022	

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Arsenal	10	4	0	1	11	5	4	1	0	11	4	25
Liverpool	11	5	0	1	13	3	2	2	1	8	7	23
SAINTS	11	4	2	0	11	2	2	2	1	4	3	22
Chelsea	11	5	1	0	14	5	1	2	2	4	5	21
Spurs	10	3	1	1	5	4	3	1	1	4	1	20
Man City	10	5	0	0	20	2	1	1	3	8	9	19
Everton	10	3	2	0	6	3	2	2	1	8	7	19
Man Utd	10	2	2	1	7	5	3	0	2	10	8	17
W.B.A.	11	2	1	2	6	4	1	4	1	6	8	14
A. Villa	11	2	0	4	6	9	2	2	1	5	3	14
Newcastle	10	2	2	1	7	5	2	0	3	7	11	14
Hull	11	3	2	0	4	1	1	0	5	5	13	14
Cardiff	11	2	1	2	5	5	1	2	3	4	10	12
Swansea	10	1	2	2	5	2	0	3	4	4	11	
West Ham	10	1	1	3	5	7	1	3	1	3	1	10
Fulham	11	1	1	3	5	9	2	0	4	5	10	10
Stoke	10	1	3	1	3	3	1	0	4	4	8	9
Norwich	10	1	2	2	4	6	1	0	4	2	14	8
Sunderland	10	1	0	4	5	10	0	1	4	2	12	4
Crystal P	10	1	0	4	4	10	0	0	5	2	11	3

SkyBet Championship

Barnsley.....	0	Doncaster.....	0
HT 0-0		Att 11,843	
Blackpool.....	2	Ipswich.....	3
Dobbie 23		Nouble 65	
Davies 90		Taylor 84	
HT 1-0		Murphy 90	
Bolton.....	3	Millwall.....	1
Hall 5		Easter 28	
Beckford 43			
Moritz 89			
HT 2-1		Att 14,830	
Brighton.....	3	Blackburn.....	0
Barnes 35 pen,77			
Forster-Caskey 56			
HT 1-0		Att 27,912	
Burnley.....	1	CHERRIES.....	1
Iings 84		Rantle 50	
HT 0-0			
Charlton.....	L	Leeds Utd.....	L
Stewart 45		McCormack 17,48 pen	
HT 1-1			
Derby City.....	3	Sheff Wed.....	0
Buxton 45			
Hughes 49			
Martin 58			
HT 1-0		Att 26,421	
Huddersfield.....	1	Birmingham.....	3
Gerrard 31		Zigic 11	
HT 1-1		Bartley 66,81	
Leicester.....	0	Nottm For.....	2
		Cox 31	
HT 0-2		Mackie 43	
Middlesbro.....	2	Watford.....	2
Adomah 23		Att 30,416	
Ayala 90		Deeney 32	
HT 1-1		Forestier 73	
Reading.....	1	Q.P.R.....	1
McCleary 62		Barton 78	
HT 0-0		Att 21,497	

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Burnley	15	5	3	0	15	4	5	1	1	12	6	34
Leicester	15	6	1	1	13	8	4	1	2	11	7	32
Q.P.R.	15	6	1	0	10	2	3	4	1	7	3	32
Blackpool	15	4	3	1	10	7	3	3	1	9	7	27
Nottm For	15	4	2	1	11	6	3	3	3	2	10	26
Reading	15	4	4	0	14	7	2	2	3	9	11	24
Watford	15	3	2	2	13	10	3	3	3	2	14	20
Derby City	15	2	3	3	13	14	4	1	2	16	9	22
Brighton	15	3	3	2	13	9	2	3	2	5	5	21
Ipswich	15	4	1	2	12	6	2	1	4	3	11	24
Leeds Utd	14	4	1	2	12	6	2	1	4	6	10	20
Wigan	14	3	4	0	12	7	1	1	4	4	5	19
Blackburn	15	4	1	2	11	5	1	3	4	9	14	19
CHERRIES	15	4	0	3	11	10	1	3	4	10	20	18
Huddersfield	15	3	3	2	14	11	1	2	4	5	8	17
Middlesbro	15	2	5	1	17	11	1	2	4	8	13	16
Solton	15	1	5	2	9	9	2	2	3	7	12	16
Charlton	13	1	3	2	3	4	2	2	3	7	10	14
Birmingham	15	2	2	1	4	10	7	2	1	5	7	14
Millwall	15	2	2	3	10	12	1	3	4	8	19	14
Doncaster	14	2	1	4	7	11	1	3	3	5	12	13
Sheff Wed	14	1	3	2	10	9	0	5	3	7	14	11
Barnsley	15	2	4	2	10	16	0	1	6	6	15	11
Yeovil	14	1	1	5	4	9	1	2	4	5	12	9

FA Cup First Round

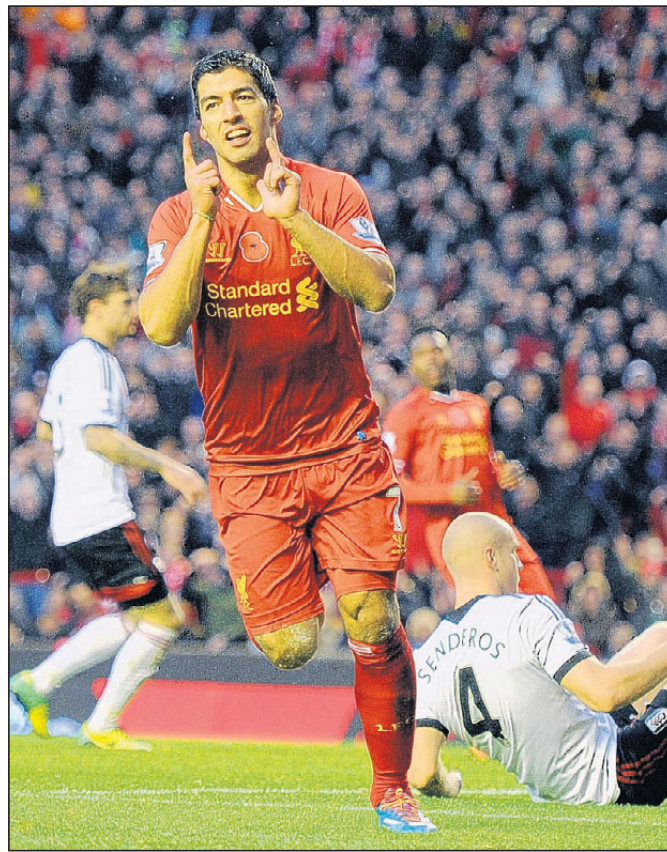
Acc Stanley.....	0	Tranmere.....	1
HT 0-0		Lowe 90	
Boreham W.....	0	Carlisle.....	0
HT 0-0		Att 901	
Braintree Town..	1	Newport County.....	1
Isaac 9		Peters 50 og	
HT 1-0		Att 1,004	
Brentford.....	5	Staines Town.....	0
McCormack 21 pen			
Reeves 35			
Harris 38			
Trotta 50			
Donaldson 90			
HT 3-0		Att 5,263	
Bristol C.....	3	Dagenham.....	0
Emmanuel-Thomas 35,90			
Elliott 87			
HT 1-0		Att 3,763	
Bury.....	P	Cambridge.....	P
Postponed - due to waterlogged pitch.			
Chesterfield.....	2	Daventry Town.....	0
Roberts 69			
Ryan 88			
HT 0-0			

Colchester.....	2	Sheff Utd.....	3
Bonne 49		Maguire 10	
Garbutt 64		Walker 12 og	
HT 0-2		Porter 81 pen	
Corby.....	1	Dover.....	2
Carruthers 90		Elder 57	
HT 0-0		Kinnear 66	
Gillingham.....	1	Brackley.....	1
Dack 90		Martin 69 og	
HT 0-0		Att 3,004	
Gloucester.....	0	Fleetwood Town.....	2
		Ball 11	
		Parkin 84	
		Att 1,183	
Grimsby.....	0	Scunthorpe.....	0
HT 0-0		Att 8,306	
Hartlepool.....	3	Notts Cnty.....	2
Baldwin 16		Walton 18 og	
James 42,75		Murray 84	
HT 2-1		Att 3,313	
Hdnesfrd T.....	1	Crawley.....	2
Durrell 76 pen		Campion 61 og	
HT 0-0		Sinclair 83	
Kiddrminster.....	4	Sutton Utd.....	1
Morgan-Smith 13		Clough 10	
Gittings 18			
Lolley 60			
Malbon 90			
HT 2-1		Att 2,045	

Leyton O.....	5	Southport.....	2
Batt 3,56		George 21	
Mooney 9		Flynn 87	
James 45			
Cox 67			
HT 3-1		Att 3,014	
Lincoln City.....	0	Plymouth.....	0
HT 0-0		Att 2,924	
Macclesfield.....	4	Swindon.....	0
Jennings 26,74			
Boden 70			
Winn 89			
HT 1-0		Att 1,835	
M K Dons.....	4	FC Halifax.....	0
McLeod 39,70		Gregory 78	
Williams 53 pen			
Galloway 90			
HT 1-0			

Morecambe.....	0	Southend.....	3
		Straker 7,9	
		Leonard 90	
		Att 1,475	
Oldham.....	1	Wolves.....	1
Kusunga 2		Golbourne 37	
HT 1-1		Att 3,916	
Oxford Utd.....	2	Gateshead.....	2
Smalley 77		Marwood 12	
Rose 90		Chandler 51	
HT 0-1		Att 3,114	
Peterboro.....	2	Exeter.....	0
Assombalonga 72			
Mendez-Laing 79			
HT 0-0			

Preston.....	6	Barnet.....	0
Clarke 18			
Garnier 36,82			
Gallagher 45,68,79			
HT 3-0			
Rotherham.....	3	Bradford.....	0
Agard 13,71			
Revell 62			
HT 1-0		Att 7,667	
SALISBURY.....	4	Dartford.....	2
Fitchett 13,77		Burns 68	
Wright 18		Cornhill 90	
Frear 45			
HT 3-0		Att 1,313	
St Albans.....	1	Mansfield.....	0
Locke 8		Stevenson 43	
		Howell 45	
		Daniel 70	
		Clucas 74,81,86,90	
		Palmer 77	
		Att 3,251	
HT 1-2			
Stevenage.....	2	POMPEY.....	1
Zoko 9,39		Connolly 71	
HT 2-0		Att 2,829	



ROUT: Liverpool's Luis Suarez celebrates scoring their fourth goal during the Barclays Premier League match at Anfield.

SkyBet League One

Richards 58												
Benbow 85												
HT 2-1										Att 1,605		
Tamworth	1									0		
Chadwick 20												
HT 1-0										Att 1,566		
Torquay	0									2		
Wals 0-0												
Hatfield	3									0		
Westcar 29.59												
Sawyers 73												
HT 1-0										Att 3,004		
Welling U	2									1		
Clarke 28												
Healy 44										Benson 57		
HT 2-0												
Wrexham	L									L		
Bishop 24.49												
Harris 72										Spaight 61 pen		
HT 1-0										Att 2,415		
Wycombe	1									1		
Cowan-Hall 37										Grant 4		
HT 1-1										Att 1,929		